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6 MARKUP OF  
7 THE BUILD BACK BETTER ACT:  
8 SUBTITLE A: BUDGET RECONCILIATION LEGISLATIVE  
9 RECOMMENDATIONS RELATING TO AIR POLLUTION;  
10 SUBTITLE B: BUDGET RECONCILIATION LEGISLATIVE  
11 RECOMMENDATIONS RELATING TO HAZARDOUS MATERIALS;  
12 SUBTITLE C: BUDGET RECONCILIATION LEGISLATIVE  
13 RECOMMENDATIONS RELATING TO DRINKING WATER;  
14 SUBTITLE D: BUDGET RECONCILIATION LEGISLATIVE  
15 RECOMMENDATIONS RELATING TO ENERGY;  
16 SUBTITLE E: BUDGET RECONCILIATION LEGISLATIVE  
17 RECOMMENDATIONS RELATING TO DRUG PRICING;  
18 SUBTITLE F: BUDGET RECONCILIATION LEGISLATIVE  
19 RECOMMENDATIONS RELATING TO THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT;  
20 SUBTITLE G: BUDGET RECONCILIATION LEGISLATIVE  
21 RECOMMENDATIONS RELATING TO MEDICAID;  
22 SUBTITLE H: BUDGET RECONCILIATION LEGISLATIVE  
23 RECOMMENDATIONS RELATING TO CHIP;  
24 SUBTITLE I: BUDGET RECONCILIATION LEGISLATIVE  
25 RECOMMENDATIONS RELATING TO MEDICARE;  
26  
27

28     SUBTITLE J:    BUDGET RECONCILIATION LEGISLATIVE  
29     RECOMMENDATIONS RELATING TO PUBLIC HEALTH;  
30     SUBTITLE K:    BUDGET RECONCILIATION LEGISLATIVE  
31     RECOMMENDATIONS RELATING TO NEXT GENERATION 9-1-1;  
32     SUBTITLE L:    BUDGET RECONCILIATION LEGISLATIVE  
33     RECOMMENDATIONS RELATING TO WIRELESS CONNECTIVITY;  
34     SUBTITLE M:    BUDGET RECONCILIATION LEGISLATIVE  
35     RECOMMENDATIONS RELATING TO DISTANCE LEARNING;  
36     SUBTITLE N:    BUDGET RECONCILIATION LEGISLATIVE  
37     RECOMMENDATIONS RELATING TO MANUFACTURING SUPPLY CHAIN;  
38     SUBTITLE O:    BUDGET RECONCILIATION LEGISLATIVE  
39     RECOMMENDATIONS RELATING TO FTC PRIVACY ENFORCEMENT; AND  
40     SUBTITLE P:    BUDGET RECONCILIATION LEGISLATIVE  
41     RECOMMENDATIONS RELATING TO DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE INSPECTOR  
42     GENERAL  
43     MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2021  
44     House of Representatives,  
45     Committee on Energy and Commerce,  
46     Washington, D.C.

47

48             The committee met, pursuant to call, at 11:06 a.m. in  
49     Room 2123, Rayburn House Office Building, Hon. Frank Pallone  
50     [chairman of the committee] presiding.

51

52             Present:   Representatives Pallone, Rush, Eshoo, DeGette,

53 Doyle, Schakowsky, Butterfield, Matsui, Castor, Sarbanes,  
54 McNerney, Welch, Tonko, Clarke, Schrader, Cardenas, Ruiz,  
55 Peters, Dingell, Veasey, Kuster, Kelly, Barragan, McEachin,  
56 Blunt Rochester, Soto, O'Halleran, Rice, Craig, Schrier,  
57 Trahan, Fletcher; Rodgers, Upton, Burgess, Scalise, Latta,  
58 Guthrie, McKinley, Kinzinger, Griffith, Bilirakis, Johnson,  
59 Long, Bucshon, Mullin, Hudson, Walberg, Carter, Duncan,  
60 Palmer, Dunn, Curtis, Lesko, Pence, Crenshaw, Joyce, and  
61 Armstrong.

62

63           Staff Present: Shana Beavin, Professional Staff Member;  
64   Jacquelyn Bolen, Health Counsel; Adam Fischer, Professional  
65   Staff Member; Austin Flack, Policy Analyst; Lisa Goldman,  
66   Senior Counsel; Waverly Gordon, Deputy Staff Director and  
67   General Counsel; Jessica Grandberry, Staff Assistant; Daniel  
68   Greene, Professional Staff Member; Tiffany Guarascio, Staff  
69   Director; Anthony Gutierrez, Professional Staff Member;  
70   Caitlin Haberman, Professional Staff Member; Perry Hamilton,  
71   Clerk; Fabrizio, Staff Assistant; Ed Kaczmariski, Policy  
72   Analyst; Zach Kahan, Deputy Director Outreach and Member  
73   Service; Rick Kessler, Senior Advisor and Staff Director,  
74   Energy and Environment; Mackenzie Kuhl, Press Assistant;  
75   Brendan Larkin, Policy Coordinator; Jerry Leverich, Senior  
76   Counsel; Dustin Maghamfar, Air and Climate Counsel; Dan  
77   Miller, Professional Staff Member; David Miller, Counsel;  
78   Juan Negrete, Junior Professional Staff Member; Tyler  
79   O'Connor, Energy Counsel; Joe Orlando, Policy Analyst; Lino  
80   Pena-Martinez, Policy Analyst; Kaitlyn Peel, Digital  
81   Director; Caroline Rinker, Press Assistant; Tim Robinson,  
82   Chief Counsel; Chloe Rodriguez, Clerk; Kylea Rogers, Staff  
83   Assistant; Samantha Satchell, Professional Staff Member;  
84   Andrew Souvall, Director of Communications, Outreach, and  
85   Member Services; Caroline Wood, Staff Assistant; Tuley  
86   Wright, Senior Energy and Environment Policy Advisor; C.J.  
87   Young, Deputy Communications Director; Kate Arey, Minority

88 Content Manager and Digital Assistant; Sarah Burke, Minority  
89 Deputy Staff Director; Michael Cameron, Minority Policy  
90 Analyst, CPC, Energy, Environment; William Clutterbuck,  
91 Minority Staff Assistant/Policy Analyst; Jerry Couri,  
92 Minority Deputy Chief Counsel for Environment; Theresa Gambo,  
93 Minority Financial and Office Administrator; Nate Hodson,  
94 Minority Staff Director; Peter Kielty, Minority General  
95 Counsel; Emily King, Minority Member Services Director; Bijan  
96 Koohmaraie, Minority Chief Counsel, O&I Chief Counsel; Tim  
97 Kurth, Minority Chief Counsel, CPC; Mary Martin, Minority  
98 Chief Counsel, Energy & Environment; Brannon Mooney, Minority  
99 Deputy Chief Counsel for Energy; Kate O'Connor, Minority  
100 Chief Counsel, C&T; Clare Paoletta, Minority Policy Analyst,  
101 Health; Brannon Rains, Minority Professional Staff Member,  
102 CPC; Olivia Shields, Minority Communications Director; Peter  
103 Spencer, Minority Senior Professional Staff Member, Energy;  
104 Michael Taggart, Minority Policy Director; Evan Viau,  
105 Minority Professional Staff Member, C&T; and Everett Winnick,  
106 Minority Director of Information Technology.  
107

108           \*The Chairman. The committee will come to order.

109           We are meeting today to consider budget reconciliation  
110 legislative recommendations to comply with the reconciliation  
111 directive included in section 2001 of the Concurrent  
112 Resolution on the Budget for Fiscal Year 2022, and we will  
113 consider those recommendations as 16 committee prints.

114           Due to the COVID-19 public health emergency, members can  
115 participate in today's markup either in person or remotely,  
116 via online video conferencing. Member staff and members of  
117 the press present in the hearing room must wear a mask, in  
118 accordance with the updated guidance issued by the attending  
119 physicians. Of course, when you are speaking that is not the  
120 case.

121           But for members participating remotely, your microphones  
122 will be set on mute for the purpose of eliminating  
123 inadvertent background noise. Members participating remotely  
124 will need to unmute your microphone each time you wish to  
125 speak.

126           Please note that, once you unmute your microphone,  
127 anything that is said in Webex will be heard over the  
128 loudspeakers in the committee room, and subject to be heard  
129 by the live stream and CSPAN.

130           Additionally, I ask that members participating remotely  
131 use the raise hand feature of the software platform when you  
132 wish to be recognized, including to give an opening

133 statement, or to offer an amendment. After you are  
134 recognized to speak, please use the lower hand feature of the  
135 software platform, so that I know that you no longer seek  
136 recognition.

137 Now, during voice votes, members participating remotely  
138 will need to unmute yourselves, so that we can hear your  
139 response.

140 If you would like to request a recorded vote, please do  
141 so immediately after you respond to the voice vote.

142 During recorded votes you will need to unmute yourself  
143 to respond to the clerk, once your name is called. And in  
144 responding to the clerk, I ask that, instead of just saying  
145 aye or no, that you respond with a phrase like, "Frank  
146 Pallone from New Jersey votes yes," and that gives us  
147 additional time for the voting member to be identified and  
148 made visible on the platform.

149 Now, since members are participating from different  
150 locations at today's markup, all recognition of members will  
151 be in the order of full committee seniority.

152 And during this markup amendments will be sent to  
153 members electronically, as we did during virtual markups.  
154 Members participating in person should not bring paper copies  
155 of their amendments to the clerk's desk. If a member  
156 participating in person would like a paper copy of an  
157 amendment or bill, please let staff know during the

158 consideration of the amendment or bill. And amendments and  
159 motions should be sent to Chloe Rodriguez and Perry Hamilton,  
160 and documents for the record to Ed Kaczmariski at the email  
161 addresses we provided to staff. All documents will be  
162 entered into the record at the conclusion of the markup.

163 So now I have got to recognize myself for three minutes  
164 for an opening statement.

165 Let me mention the members -- the subcommittee chairs  
166 and ranking members will have three minutes, and individual  
167 members other than those have one minute. And, of course,  
168 since this bill is comprehensive, all of the subcommittee  
169 chairs and ranking members other than O&I would be -- would  
170 have three minutes. Okay?

171 All right, let me find my opening statement. And I  
172 recognize myself for three minutes.

173 Today we continue this committee's critical work of  
174 revitalizing our economy for the future, lowering costs for  
175 American families, and combating the worsening climate  
176 crisis. We will mark up our portion of the Build Back Better  
177 Act. This transformational legislation is needed now, as the  
178 American people are facing a public health crisis, a rapidly  
179 escalating climate crisis, and long-term economic challenges.

180 We will begin by taking critical action to combat the  
181 worsening climate crisis. There is no time for delay. This  
182 summer the communities of nearly one in three Americans were



183 hit by an extreme weather disaster. Earlier this month the  
184 remnants of Hurricane Ida devastated my state with both  
185 severe flooding and tornadoes. I think we are up to over 30  
186 deaths from Ida at this point in New Jersey. Natural  
187 disasters cost Americans a record-shattering 95 billion in  
188 damages last year, and they are expected to be even higher  
189 this year. Bold action is clearly needed, because the days  
190 of incremental change are long gone.

191 Now, the Build Back Better Act will create a clean  
192 energy future that produces millions of good-paying jobs  
193 right here at home. The legislation invests 150 billion in  
194 the Clean Electricity Performance Program that will help us  
195 meet our climate goals. It invests 27.5 billion in a  
196 Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund to support the rapid deployment  
197 of low and zero-emission technologies. We also invest in  
198 electric vehicles, appliances, and building efficiency  
199 rebates, electric transmission, and low-income solar.

200 And also on the environmental front we provide \$30  
201 billion in funding to fulfill the President's commitment to  
202 replace all lead service lines and drinking water systems, as  
203 well as \$10 billion for superfund cleanups and 5 billion for  
204 environmental and climate justice block grants.

205 Turning to health care, we expand access to coverage,  
206 make it more affordable, and lower the cost of skyrocketing  
207 prescription drugs. The Build Back Better Act gives the

208 Federal Government the ability to finally negotiate lower  
209 drug costs with drug manufacturers, so Americans are no  
210 longer paying three or four times as much for the same drugs  
211 as people in other countries.

212 It also finally closes the Medicaid coverage gap, which  
213 will expand coverage to more than four million uninsured  
214 Americans. We provide 190 billion in funding to allow more  
215 seniors and individuals with disabilities to receive the  
216 services they need in their homes. And the legislation  
217 includes a historic expansion of Medicare, adding dental,  
218 hearing, and vision benefits for seniors for the first time.

219 We also make critical investments in public health and  
220 preparedness. The COVID-19 pandemic has shown that our  
221 public health system was not equipped for the full force of  
222 this global pandemic, and so today we will provide the  
223 critical funding necessary to ensure our nation will be able  
224 to address any future public health emergency, head on.

225 And finally, we will make investments in public safety,  
226 broadband, manufacturing, and privacy.

227 So the Build Back Better Act is transformational  
228 legislation that invests in the American people, responds to  
229 the challenges of our time, and builds back a better future  
230 for generations to come. I cannot exaggerate the importance  
231 of it, in my opinion.

232 So now I would like to recognize Mrs. Rodgers, the

233 ranking member, for three minutes, for an opening statement.

234       \*Mrs. Rodgers. Mr. Chairman, I believe in the promise  
235 of America. It is here that we turn our dreams into a  
236 reality, dreams to build a better life, work hard, and leave  
237 this country better off for our children. This is America's  
238 history for life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness for  
239 all. We have done more to lift people out of poverty and  
240 raise the standard of living than any nation in the history  
241 of the world.

242       But today there is an overwhelming sense that America's  
243 promise is slipping away from us: Americans left behind in  
244 Afghanistan under Taliban rule; recovery from Hurricane Ida  
245 in Louisiana and Mississippi; an ongoing crisis at the  
246 southern border; rising COVID cases and pressures on our  
247 hospital systems; public health officials breaking our trust  
248 and undermining vaccine confidence; a record number of deaths  
249 of despair; inflation ticking up every day on American  
250 families. These are the challenges that people are worried  
251 about, that cause sleepless nights and, rightfully, people  
252 expect us to address.

253       That is not what is happening today, as we consider the  
254 Energy and Commerce provisions of the left's \$3.5 trillion  
255 tax-and-spending spree. This should be called Build More  
256 Inflation Act: record spending that has already raised  
257 record price increases on families. Spending 3.5 trillion

258 for a radical wish list will only make rising costs worse.

259 This is not what American people want. This is Speaker  
260 Pelosi's grand socialist agenda to destroy freedom and  
261 embolden our enemies on the backs of American people.

262 This massive bill fundamentally changes America's life  
263 and security for the worst. Blackouts, unaffordable  
264 electricity bills, tax hikes, entire American industries and  
265 jobs destroyed, no hope to cure diseases, long lines of sick,  
266 begging the government for lifesaving treatments, and weak  
267 American defenses against our adversaries like China and  
268 Russia: that is the future my colleagues across the aisle  
269 are proposing today.

270 The freedom-loving men and women of this country deserve  
271 better. I think about a man from Deer Park, Washington, who  
272 drives a -- his own truck to provide for his family. He told  
273 me that, because of higher gas prices and inflation, he  
274 doesn't know what his future holds. Under the Build More  
275 Inflation Act, we know the answer, because it shuts down  
276 American energy. Just like our Keystone Pipeline workers, he  
277 loses his job. His livelihood is gone. All the while,  
278 Democrats' political allies and campaign donors get billions  
279 and billions and billions of kickbacks to advance a radical  
280 political agenda. It is cruel.

281 The Build More Inflation Act must not dictate our  
282 future. Mr. Chairman, I am strongly opposed. My colleagues

283 and I will do whatever it takes for as long as it takes in  
284 this markup to expose how this bill before us will build more  
285 inflation, reward our nation's enemies, and end the American  
286 Dream.

287 I urge this committee to stop the partisanship directed  
288 by Speaker Pelosi, and return to its rich, bipartisan  
289 history. That is the American way. We have a promise to  
290 keep for life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness for all.

291 And I yield back.

292 \*The Chairman. I thank the gentlewoman. I think I am  
293 just going to go based on seniority here, and see who wants  
294 to speak, rather than raise hands. So the most senior of our  
295 chairs, subcommittee chairs, would be Mr. Rush.

296 \*Mr. Rush. Well, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

297 \*The Chairman. Mr. Rush is recognized for three  
298 minutes.

299 \*Mr. Rush. Well, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am pleased  
300 that we are here today to discuss this important package,  
301 which I will call, finally, the little guys benefit from the  
302 Federal Government programs, and not the rich, the well off,  
303 and the wealthy.

304 Mr. Chairman, this package will make much-needed  
305 investment in our nation's health, climate, and economic  
306 infrastructure. Through this legislation, we are setting up  
307 clean electricity to be the backbone -- economy, an economic

308 plan that truly works for all Americans --

309 \*The Chairman. The next one --

310 \*Mr. Rush. -- billion dollar tax credit, or tax  
311 giveaway.

312 Mr. Chairman, an independent analysis found that the  
313 clean electricity program included in today's package will  
314 create nearly 8 million jobs, and nearly \$1 trillion of  
315 economic growth. I am pleased that we are including this  
316 investment, which will create desperately-needed jobs and  
317 opportunities for all Americans, particularly those from  
318 marginalized, discredited, and disinvested communities.

319 I am also pleased to see investments from the NO EXHAUST  
320 Act included in this package. These provisions will direct  
321 \$1 million to ensuring that underserved or disadvantaged  
322 communities, and particularly those of color, are not once  
323 again left behind as our electric vehicle transition  
324 guarantees tremendous growth, nationwide.

325 Mr. Chairman, I am also pleased that we are making more  
326 money available to the weatherization program, which helps  
327 low-income families spend less on energy by making their  
328 homes more efficient.

329 Mr. Chairman, I am also delighted that we are including  
330 moneys for our children's schools to remove toxins, address  
331 air pollution, and eliminate lead in drinking water.

332 On the health side, Mr. Chairman, I am excited about the

333 inclusion of glasses, dentures, and hearing aids.

334 This is one area, Mr. Chairman, that -- there is one  
335 area, Mr. Chairman, that I find woefully lacking in today's  
336 committee print markup, and that is support of community-  
337 based health and -- health investment funding. And I hope  
338 that this oversight is addressed in the immediate --

339 [Audio malfunction.]

340 \*Mr. Rush. I yield back the balance of my time.

341 \*The Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Rush. So I understand we  
342 are not going to go to Mr. Upton.

343 Mr. Latta, you would be next.

344 \*Voice. He is on -- he is virtual.

345 \*The Chairman. Oh, he is virtual? Okay.

346 \*Mr. Latta. Well, thanks --

347 \*The Chairman. Bob?

348 \*Mr. Latta. -- Mr. Chairman. Thank you very much --

349 \*The Chairman. You are recognized for three minutes.

350 \*Mr. Latta. Thank you, good morning. I am disappointed  
351 in the bipartisan products before us today. I have always  
352 sought to work with my friends across the aisle to produce  
353 legislation that helps Americans. But this bill is the  
354 opposite. It hurts Americans by spending more than \$1  
355 trillion to advance a radical agenda that gives the Federal  
356 Government more control over Americans' health care, more  
357 control over energy production use, and will drive up

358 consumer costs on everyday goods and services.

359       There are numerous issues that could have been  
360 bipartisan -- many that were bipartisan -- being forced into  
361 this liberal wish list of a bill. For example, this package  
362 includes funding for NextGen 911, and authorizes the spectrum  
363 auction. All topics have been -- historically been  
364 bipartisan.

365       However, it also includes four billion to incentivize  
366 schools to stay closed, and appease teachers unions, just  
367 adding to our national debt.

368       The partisanship continues throughout this bill, and  
369 specifically harms our nation's energy sector. I am fearful  
370 that the multi-trillion-dollar boondoggle of a bill will  
371 enshrine in statue what President Biden has hypocritically  
372 done in the executive branch, handicapping American energy,  
373 while giving a pass to China, Russia, and OPEC. These  
374 policies will undermine our energy security, and increase our  
375 reliance on foreign sources of energy, which are dirtier,  
376 less regulated, and more expensive to the American consumer.

377       I will be offering amendments that seek to protect the  
378 American people from higher fees and prices that we will face  
379 because of this bill, and to make sure we are not  
380 handicapping American competitiveness on the world stage. My  
381 amendments will also make sure there is transparency in these  
382 programs, so the American people know exactly what will be --



383 they will be facing if these disastrous policies are  
384 implemented.

385 I go on to talk about how this bill hurts seniors,  
386 raises health care costs for Americans, keeps kids out of  
387 school, and will hinder our nation's economic recovery. The  
388 list of negative consequences from the policies in this  
389 legislation never seems to end.

390 Again, we should be united in our efforts to help the  
391 American people, especially at a time when inflation is out  
392 of control. Gas prices are up more than 40 percent from last  
393 year, leaving many Americans, like my constituents in  
394 northwest, west, central Ohio, struggling to pay for gas to  
395 commute to work and drop their kids off of school. Families  
396 are stretching their last dollar because of the President's  
397 inflation crisis, and this bill will only make things worse  
398 for Americans.

399 With that, Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my  
400 time. Thank you.

401 \*The Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Latta. Let me remind  
402 those who are not speaking, if you would -- virtually, if you  
403 would, you know, put yourself back on mute, so we don't hear  
404 you speaking while the other person is speaking.

405 And so next we will go to -- Ms. Eshoo is recognized for  
406 three minutes.

407 \*Ms. Eshoo. Good morning, Mr. Chairman and colleagues.

408 Thank you for recognizing me.

409         This weekend we commemorated the 20th anniversary of the  
410 horrendous attack on our country, and I am sure many of you  
411 saw, you know, the extensive coverage of it. And it all said  
412 to me that the American people have really been through hell,  
413 not only on 9/11, but with floods, with hurricanes, with  
414 tornadoes, with the loss of life, with the pandemic,  
415 trillions of dollars spent on wars, and all that are a part  
416 of that.

417         Today the American people are front and center: working  
418 families, children, seniors.

419         I think the members know that, as chairwoman of the  
420 Health Subcommittee, I always work to include testimony from  
421 a patient at nearly every hearing. During our hearings we  
422 have heard from Teresa Ball, whose multiple sclerosis  
423 medication costs over \$7,000, which is 5 times higher than  
424 any other wealthy nation in the world. We heard from Wanda  
425 Irving, who lost her daughter, Dr. Shalon Irving, from  
426 preventable maternal causes. We heard from Laura LeBrun  
427 Hatcher, who worried about whether her son, Simon, would lose  
428 his health insurance or his home care.

429         The needs across our country for all of our  
430 constituents, not just Democrats, all of our constituents,  
431 are great. The bill before us offers an historic opportunity  
432 to lower drug prices for the American people through direct

433 negotiation of Medicare, and with the savings we can invest  
434 in vision, dental, and hearing coverage for seniors in our  
435 country. We can close the Medicaid coverage gap that has  
436 kept health care out of reach for as many as four million  
437 Americans because their state refused to expand Medicaid  
438 eligibility.

439       Every single one of us has health insurance. Every  
440 American deserves the same. We can lower premiums for many  
441 of the 11.3 million Americans enrolled in the ACA health  
442 insurance plans. We can provide \$190 billion to expand  
443 access to home-based health care to older adults and people  
444 with disabilities. We can extend Medicaid coverage for new  
445 mothers for one year, postpartum, and provide a billion to  
446 prevent maternal deaths and injuries. These are  
447 extraordinary investments.

448       The bill before us invests billions to rebuild and  
449 modernize our public health agencies across the country. We  
450 all know that that is a necessity, and we can bolster  
451 biosecurity.

452       I am especially proud that the bill funds a strong  
453 domestic supply of essential medications and their  
454 ingredients, and it invests in an ARPA-H to deliver  
455 transformational technologies to address the most devastating  
456 diseases.

457       This legislation also includes my legislation to help

458 communities respond to wildfire smoke, which the --

459 \*The Chairman. The gentlewoman -- Anna, you are over.

460 I don't know if you are about to wrap up.

461 \*Ms. Eshoo. Mr. Chairman, thank you for your  
462 leadership, and bringing this bill up. I look forward to  
463 what it will bring the American people, and it will not only  
464 build back better, but make people's lives better, as well.

465 I yield back.

466 \*The Chairman. Thank you. So now Dr. Burgess is going  
467 to take Fred Upton's time. So Mr. Burgess is recognized for  
468 three minutes.

469 \*Mr. Burgess. I thank the chairman. And, you know, Mr.  
470 Chairman, as we sit in this room, with the portraits of all  
471 of our former chairs looking down on us, you know, it is  
472 interesting to note that when this committee -- and you were  
473 probably the only one who was here -- when this committee  
474 marked up the Clean Air Act, it took you eight months. We  
475 are hearing a markup on a bill today that will fundamentally  
476 change life in America for every American citizen for  
477 generations, and we are spending two days.

478 This is a travesty, Mr. Chairman, something of which,  
479 really, none of us should be proud, to have our committee and  
480 our committee's expertise trampled in the way it has been by  
481 the Speaker of the House with this bill that we have in front  
482 of us today. We are going to devastate, devastate our

483 nation's energy, our nation's health, telecommunications.

484         And where is our oversight on the Office of Refugee  
485 Resettlement?

486         So recently, we saw in the previous Administration this  
487 country achieved energy independence, something that -- a  
488 goal that had been sought since the Arab oil embargo in the  
489 early 1970s. Energy independence was not just about energy,  
490 it was about security, and our security in the world. But  
491 the current Administration decided it was no longer  
492 important. We could buy our wind and solar from Chinese  
493 companies. And if you did happen to need a little natural  
494 gas, maybe the Russians would sell it to you through the Nord  
495 Stream 2.

496         This is an anti-energy bill that we are considering in  
497 front of us today. We should commit to making energy more  
498 reliable, more affordable, more accessible, but this bill  
499 does none of those.

500         And this legislation contains some of the most  
501 significant changes to our health care system. And what are  
502 we going to achieve? We are going to cripple access. We  
503 are going to stifle innovation. And heaven help us, as far  
504 as quality.

505         And there has been no public debate. There has been no  
506 bipartisan dialogue. This is one large step closer to  
507 government-controlled health care, health care in which there

508 is no patient choice, there is no consumer choice. And worst  
509 of all, there is no escape.

510 Last, we are the committee with oversight over the  
511 Office of Refugee Resettlement. We have recently, in the  
512 months of -- as recently as the month of July, learned about  
513 100,000 people that came into our country without the benefit  
514 of any sort of normal process on our southern border. Now we  
515 have a severe strain on the Office of Refugee Resettlement,  
516 with all of the Afghan refugees that need to be brought in,  
517 and vetted, and carefully assessed before they are allowed to  
518 enter society. But we are not doing that. We are not having  
519 any oversight. We are not having any hearing.

520 Mr. Chairman, I submit this is a travesty. This should  
521 stop. This bill must not become law.

522 And I yield back.

523 \*The Chairman. Thank you, Dr. Burgess. I don't know if  
524 I should thank you, though, for reminding everyone how long I  
525 have been here, but thank you, nonetheless.

526 Next is -- Mr. Doyle is recognized. Well does Mr. Doyle  
527 want -- he does. He is recognized for three minutes.

528 \*Mr. Doyle. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for bringing this  
529 legislation before us, and recognizing and responding to the  
530 urgent needs of the American people.

531 There are many meaningful priorities here: long overdue  
532 investments in health care, energy, consumer protection, and

533 technology. As chairman of the Committee of Communications  
534 and Technologies, I want to highlight some of the aspects  
535 that will make a difference in people's lives.

536 First, we are making overdue and very necessary  
537 investments in our public safety communications network.  
538 Just imagine the difference it will make in our lives, and  
539 the lives of our families, and the lives of all our  
540 constituents when 911 is more resilient and modernized, so we  
541 can send text, images, and even videos to 911, all while  
542 better helping first responders locate callers.

543 Imagine the difference it will make to a kid hiding  
544 during a school shooting, when he or she can snap a picture  
545 of the shooter and send it to first responders, all without  
546 saying a word, helping him or her to stay hidden, and giving  
547 first responders the information they need to identify the  
548 shooter quickly.

549 Imagine the difference it will make to an apartment  
550 complex set ablaze when residents can send videos of the fire  
551 to 911, so firefighters know exactly how many engines are  
552 needed, even before the first truck arrives on the scene,  
553 saving lives in people's homes.

554 Imagine not having to read another story in the paper  
555 about somebody desperately calling 911, only for first  
556 responders to be left with no way to find him or her because  
557 of antiquated 911 location systems.

558           This is not a question if we should fund next generation  
559   911, or when we should do it. Instead, this is -- a question  
560   to my colleagues is if we will do that today. The sooner we  
561   make these investments, the more lives will be saved. It is  
562   as simple as that.

563           Second, we are providing more resources for the  
564   Emergency Connectivity Fund to help students and teachers  
565   succeed in the classroom. The COVID pandemic has laid bare  
566   not just the absolute necessity of broadband connection and a  
567   computer to learning in the 21st century, but also the vast  
568   disparity in educational opportunities for those that do not  
569   have -- that -- those that have broadband and those who do  
570   not.

571           The American Rescue Plan made a downpayment on closing  
572   the homework gap by providing necessary funds to connect  
573   teachers and students. The first round of applications for  
574   ECF funds shows the vast need for such support, and I applaud  
575   Acting Chairwoman Rosenworcel at the FCC for already taking  
576   steps to open a new application window to account for the  
577   unfortunate spread of the Delta variant in our schools.

578           But we must do more. To deny funds to the students who  
579   can't otherwise connect to the vast resources offered by the  
580   Internet to do schoolwork, research a book report, or  
581   complete homework at night, is to deny children an equal  
582   opportunity to learn and succeed. I urge all my colleagues



583 to support this major (sic).

584 Finally, we are going to make the spectrum -- more  
585 spectrum -- our nation's airwaves available for consumer  
586 broadband. This means more capacity for consumers, faster  
587 Internet speeds, and more innovative services.

588 Mr. Chairman, I see my time is far past expired. So  
589 with that, I will yield back the balance of my time, and urge  
590 my colleagues to support these vital measures.

591 \*The Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Doyle. It is rare for  
592 you to go over the time limit, but thank you, nonetheless.  
593 Let me go to Mr. Guthrie next. He is -- if he wants to  
594 speak. Yes, he is recognized for three minutes.

595 \*Mr. Guthrie. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for  
596 the recognition.

597 I am disappointed that we are here today for such a  
598 partisan and dangerous bill that will only build inflation.  
599 As a result of the Democrats' inflation bill, we will need to  
600 have the highest sustained -- the highest level of sustained  
601 Federal spending ever in our country's history. This means  
602 higher taxes for American families and more debt to burden  
603 our children and our grandchildren.

604 Currently, out-of-control Federal spending is already  
605 fueling an inflation fire that is on pace to raise prices at  
606 the fastest rate in almost 40 years. In Kentucky alone, food  
607 prices are up 4.8 percent, and residents are paying 74

608 percent higher gas prices.

609         In addition to fueling inflation, this bill will raise  
610 taxes on American families, and would destroy innovation for  
611 lifesaving treatments and cures. In our last Health  
612 Subcommittee hearing, in this very room, we heard from  
613 patients about the need for more research and development for  
614 neurodegenerative diseases. Yet here we are, with the  
615 Democrats' drug pricing scheme included in this massive  
616 spending package that will result in fewer cures coming to  
617 market. This would directly impact the patients we recently  
618 heard from.

619         Further, this massive bill is irresponsible. One  
620 example of this irresponsibility is the significant step this  
621 inflation bill takes towards exacerbating traditional  
622 Medicare's financial challenges by creating a duplicative and  
623 expensive new benefit, which stands to disrupt the  
624 increasingly popular innovation-friendly Medicare Advantage  
625 program that is currently serving 26.9 million seniors. Of  
626 these 26.9 million seniors, over 80 percent already have  
627 access to some combination of dental, vision, and hearing  
628 services. Instead of creating new vision, hearing, and  
629 dental programs that in some cases won't be fully implemented  
630 and even phased in until 2032, we need to allow seniors to  
631 choose plans that work best for them.

632         Currently, our country is facing multiple crises at

633 home. COVID-19 is spreading relentlessly through our  
634 communities, and overwhelming hospitals, and overdose deaths  
635 are on the rise. One of the driving factors of those  
636 overdoses is fentanyl, which is coming from the southern  
637 border at record numbers. Despite the bill's astronomical  
638 price tag, it does not address the urgent need to permanently  
639 place fentanyl model analogues in DEA's schedule 1 of  
640 scheduled drugs. The current temporary scheduling expires on  
641 October 22nd.

642 Instead, this proposal would build electric vehicle  
643 stations, raise taxes, fuel inflation, and destroy innovation  
644 for new cures, and allow for a taxpayer-funded abortions.

645 I ask my colleagues to reconsider moving forward to  
646 avoid the damage that this spending bill will do for the  
647 future of our nation.

648 I yield back.

649 \*The Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Guthrie. Next is -- Ms.  
650 Schakowsky is recognized for three minutes.

651 \*Ms. Schakowsky. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and I mean  
652 that. I really appreciate your leadership, and I am looking  
653 forward to passing this legislation.

654 I actually agreed with Dr. Burgess when he said it will  
655 change the lives of Americans for generations to come. And I  
656 say hear, hear, it is about time.

657 The President of the United States has said that we are

658 going to have an economy that builds from the bottom up, and  
659 the middle out, and that we are going to prioritize, finally,  
660 children, and women, and people with disabilities, and  
661 seniors, and small businesses, ordinary American families,  
662 instead of the kind of trickle-down, the kind of tax cuts  
663 that the Republicans voted for, \$2 trillion that went to the  
664 absolute wealthiest Americans in this country, instead of the  
665 struggling middle class -- in fact, the hollowing out of the  
666 middle class that they presided over, and the dismissal of  
667 low-income people.

668         We are changing that paradigm right now, with this bill  
669 that will transform this country into a place that is fair,  
670 that is helping ordinary Americans succeed. It is  
671 transformational, and I look forward to seeing it passed.

672         And with that, I yield back.

673         \*The Chairman. Thank you. Next is -- Mr. McKinley is  
674 recognized for three minutes.

675         \*Mr. McKinley. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman,  
676 I don't understand why we are doing this highly partisan  
677 bill. Seriously.

678         Sure, it might pass the House, if Pelosi strong-arms  
679 these members. But in its current form, Mr. Chairman, the  
680 bill won't survive the Senate. Just yesterday on the Sunday  
681 talk shows, Senator Manchin again doubled down on his promise  
682 not to support a \$3.5 trillion social infrastructure package,

683 and Senator -- has said she wouldn't -- she is not going to  
684 support it, either.

685         So apparently, this is all about political theater.  
686 Wouldn't it be novel, as an alternative, if we -- if Congress  
687 worked together to pursue bipartisan solutions?

688         Take the Clean Energy Payment, for example. In your  
689 Clean Future Act, the goal of this payment program is to  
690 reduce CO2 emissions by 80 percent by 2030, and 100 percent  
691 by 2035. But not one utility has told us they can reach that  
692 goal if they are using only wind, solar, and hydro to provide  
693 baseload power. One of America's largest wind utilities,  
694 AES, told me they would not be able to erect enough wind  
695 turbines in that timeframe. And in a meeting with my friend,  
696 my colleague, Paul Tonko, in New York, the director at GE  
697 Research in upstate New York said to us that, if Congress  
698 insists on a political deadline of 2030, 2035 to reduce CO2  
699 emissions, our electric grid will collapse.

700         Is anyone listening? Our electric grid will collapse.

701         So, instead of grandstanding about the virtues of this  
702 social spending program, Congress should be doing something  
703 bipartisan, something that could actually become law,  
704 something like perfecting carbon capture and advanced  
705 nuclear, creating a market for CO2, building up pipelines,  
706 streamlining the permitting process, or reforming New Source  
707 Review.

708           So, Mr. Chairman, how about having an adult  
709 conversation, instead of this charade?

710           I yield back.

711           \*The Chairman. Thank you, Mr. McKinley. Next is -- Mr.  
712 Tonko is recognized for three minutes.

713           \*Mr. Tonko. Thank you, Chairman Pallone. I know that  
714 we have a long day ahead of us, so I will try to keep my  
715 comments brief.

716           But I want to share that I believe the Energy and  
717 Commerce provisions of the Build Back Better Act certainly  
718 make critical investments, critical investments that will  
719 protect our public health and the environment. It will  
720 certainly respond to the climate crisis, and modernize our  
721 infrastructure.

722           If we are going to be robustly competitive as a nation  
723 in a global market, we need to be operating with 21st century  
724 infrastructure. The President and this bill really push that  
725 agenda, making certain that we are equipped with all the  
726 tools to go forward in a way that enables us to have a more  
727 robust, more fair, more just, more sustainable economy.

728           I am indeed proud, very proud, of the Environment and  
729 Climate Change Subcommittee's contributions to this package.  
730 I will have more to say on each subtitle, but I want to thank  
731 you for moving forward, Mr. Chair, with this markup.

732           And with that, I will yield back.

733           \*The Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Tonko. Next is -- Mr.  
734 Bilirakis is recognized for three minutes.

735           \*Mr. Bilirakis. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I appreciate  
736 it very much.

737           Republican Leader Rodgers rightly called this --

738           \*The Chairman. Gus, is your mike on?

739           \*Mr. Bilirakis. Yes. Can you hear me now?

740           \*The Chairman. Yes.

741           \*Mr. Bilirakis. Okay, all right. Republican Leader  
742 Rodgers rightly called this the Build Back Inflation Act.

743           As ranking member of the Consumer Protection and  
744 Commerce Subcommittee, I feel the need to shout a warning  
745 that our consumers need to be protected from this bill. Our  
746 E&C jurisdiction alone has roughly \$1 trillion on its own,  
747 only to be rewritten at the Speaker's direction, then to  
748 become part of a bill over triple the size of what is in  
749 front of us today.

750           The process and the product should be frightening to my  
751 friends across the aisle. This is not a bill to rescue the  
752 economy. It is a socialist blueprint to remake our country  
753 with a cradle-to-grave nanny-state philosophy that is driving  
754 the most radical elements of the Democratic caucus. A vote  
755 for this bill makes harder for every American to make ends  
756 meet, with the ultimate price tag coming due on our kids.

757           That includes constituent small business owners in my

758 district, one of whom told me -- and I quote -- "My costs are  
759 skyrocketing. Every month prices are rising, and I can't  
760 pass them along. Qualified people that want to work are non-  
761 existent. It is the most challenging time in my business  
762 career since the Great Recession. I am worried about tax  
763 rates, energy costs, but mostly I am worried about my  
764 children and my grandchildren having to pay for this  
765 unnecessary spending plan. It is irresponsible."

766 This hyper-partisan spending package includes \$1 billion  
767 to the Federal Trade Commission under the guise of a privacy  
768 bureau, but without, virtually, any guardrails or Federal  
769 privacy framework for how FTC would use those funds. This is  
770 not well thought out. It is not --

771 [Audio malfunction.]

772 \*Mr. Bilirakis. Mr. Chairman, thank you.

773 \*Voice. We need to suspend for a minute; we have lost  
774 audio.

775 \*The Chairman. I am told that we have lost audio. Oh,  
776 we haven't? Okay, we are back.

777 So that concludes the chairs and the ranking members.  
778 And so the members now will only have a minute for their  
779 opening. And the first one is Ms. DeGette, who I believe is  
780 virtual, right?

781 \*Ms. DeGette. That is correct, Mr. Chairman.

782 \*The Chairman. Diana is -- you are recognized for a



783 minute.

784           \*Ms. DeGette. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I  
785 will just briefly say thank you for your hard work under  
786 difficult circumstances in drafting this important bill.  
787 There are many important provisions.

788           I want to share Chair Eshoo's --

789           [Audio malfunction.]

790           \*Ms. DeGette. -- the new exciting research institution,  
791 and many, many other things.

792           I just want to give two rebuttals to a couple of things  
793 that were said by my friends on the other side of the aisle.

794           The first is the Subcommittee on Oversight and  
795 Investigations continues to monitor the situation of the kids  
796 at the border. And in fact, in case Dr. Burgess doesn't  
797 realize this, we had a hearing on this earlier this year, and  
798 we intend to continue our oversight progress.

799           And secondly, I will say, in response to Chair -- or  
800 Ranking Member McKinley, the -- our renewable energy standard  
801 in this bill does not have only -- it is source neutral to  
802 get to our energy levels. And that is important. And people  
803 should not misconstrue what is in this bill, even if they  
804 disagree with it.

805           With that, Mr. Chairman, I will yield back.

806           \*The Chairman. Thank you, Ms. DeGette.

807           Okay, Mr. Scalise, does he want to make an opening

808 statement?

809       Okay, if not, we will go to Mr. Kinzinger, I guess, in  
810 order of seniority.

811       Mr. Kinzinger?

812       I don't like to call people if they don't want to do it,  
813 but --

814       \*Voice. Yes, maybe we should say raise their hand.  
815 Maybe we should just -- people can raise their hand.

816       \*The Chairman. Why don't you raise your hand? Mr. --  
817 you are next.

818       All right, we are going to go to Bill Johnson next. Mr.  
819 Johnson is recognized for a minute.

820       \*Mr. Johnson. Well, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

821       You know, it is a sad day for America. Our President is  
822 orchestrating America's retreat from global leadership,  
823 laying bare his false promise that America is back. It is  
824 alarming to see the majority taking this committee down that  
825 same path. I would have never imagined we would be here. I  
826 doubt many Americans would.

827       America just recently was energy independent, but the  
828 majority's natural gas tax and green electricity mandates in  
829 this bill will end that.

830       America has led the world in medical breakthroughs, but  
831 the majority's socialistic drug pricing scheme will stop  
832 that. It makes me wonder what other sources of American

833 exceptionalism are on the chopping block.

834 I don't know what the goal of this \$3.5 trillion mess  
835 is, but it certainly isn't "building back better." Maybe  
836 the Biden theme should be, "Let me take you higher," because  
837 that is where this bill takes us: higher taxes, higher  
838 energy costs, higher grocery costs, higher inflation.

839 Mr. Chairman, I sure hope the American people are paying  
840 close attention today.

841 And with that, I yield back.

842 \*The Chairman. All right, I am going to try to -- I  
843 would ask you to raise your hand, either virtually or in  
844 person here, because I don't want to call on people that  
845 don't want to speak. But my understanding is --

846 \*Voice. I think it is Bucshon.

847 \*The Chairman. No, for a Democrat.

848 \*Voice. Oh, Ms. Castor.

849 \*The Chairman. Ms. Castor? Well, I am assuming  
850 Butterfield and Matsui don't want to speak, right?

851 \*Mr. Butterfield. I do.

852 \*The Chairman. Okay.

853 \*Mr. Butterfield. I am here.

854 \*The Chairman. Ms. Castor is recognized for one minute.

855 \*Mr. Butterfield. I am here. I am here, Mr. Chairman.

856 \*The Chairman. Oh, Mr. Butterfield. Okay, I am sorry.

857 Mr. Butterfield is recognized for one minute.

858           \*Mr. Butterfield. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman,  
859   for convening this most important hearing. I have been  
860   looking forward to it.

861           I want to associate myself with the words of Ms.  
862   Schakowsky a few moments ago. Without question, this  
863   legislation, when it is passed, will transform America, not  
864   just the infrastructure of America, but it will transport --  
865   it will transform America's families.

866           You know, as I travel throughout the country, that is  
867   all that I am hearing. People are hurting. They want  
868   relief. They want Congress to protect them, and to empower  
869   them and their families and their communities. And so I am  
870   excited about this legislation. I look forward to voting for  
871   it. If this hearing takes 16 hours or 16 days, we have got  
872   to get it done, and get it passed.

873           Thank you very much, I yield back.

874           \*The Chairman. We are trying to avoid the Andy Warhol  
875   -- if that is what it is -- phenomena here, as best we can.

876           Thank you, Mr. Butterfield.

877           So next is -- Mr. Bucshon is recognized, correct, for  
878   one minute?

879           \*Mr. Bucshon. Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

880           \*Voice. Okay, so I think we are just going to go people  
881   in the room here.

882           \*Voice. Bucshon has his hand up.

883           \*The Chairman. He had his hand up.

884           \*Voice. Oh, he did?

885           \*The Chairman. Yes.

886           \*Voice. Oh, okay.

887           \*Voice. Bucshon has his hand up.

888           \*The Chairman. Larry, are you there?

889           \*Mr. Bucshon. I am here. Can you hear me?

890           \*The Chairman. You are recognized for one minute.

891           \*Mr. Bucshon. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

892           Today is a sad day for this storied committee. At a  
893 time when inflation is causing Americans to pay more for  
894 almost all household items, ranging from gas to groceries, we  
895 are debating legislation set to spend more than \$1 trillion  
896 of a total package of 3.5 trillion. Throwing more money at  
897 the problem doesn't do anything to help inflation rates. The  
898 money in this legislation is simply going towards the  
899 advancement of socialist programs and government-controlled  
900 health care. And honestly, I hear a lot of Marxist theory in  
901 some of the debate.

902           Everyday Americans need the help, need our help, yet  
903 this bill sends hundreds of billions of dollars to Democrat  
904 union friends, imposes massive tax hikes on everyone, and  
905 eliminates jobs for low and middle-income families,  
906 particularly in our energy sector.

907           This committee can do better. Let's ditch this

908 socialist wish list, and get to work on common-sense  
909 solutions that provide actual relief to those who need it.

910 Thank you, and I yield back the balance of my time.

911 \*The Chairman. Thank you. Now we are going to go to --  
912 Ms. Castor is recognized for one minute.

913 \*Ms. Castor. Well, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good  
914 morning, colleagues.

915 You know it is time to invest in America again, to  
916 invest in American families, invest in American businesses,  
917 invest in American workers, and build back better.

918 The goal, I heard -- let me explain what our goal is.  
919 It is to boost good-paying, high-quality jobs in this  
920 country. Our goal is to lower the cost on families and  
921 businesses, whether that is their electricity bills, or their  
922 pharmaceutical costs, or their health care costs. And we  
923 want to strengthen supply chains through Buy American and  
924 Build it in America, whether we are talking about electric  
925 cars and trucks or health care supplies.

926 This is the culmination of many years of work in this  
927 committee, whether it is through the Clean Futures Act, the  
928 Lift America Act, the Lower Drug Cost Act, and more. This  
929 isn't something that sprung out of the blue. This is the  
930 culmination of a lot of work, and an understanding that, in  
931 this country, at this moment, we have got to build back  
932 better.

933 I yield back my time.

934 \*The Chairman. Next we have -- Mr. Carter is recognized  
935 for a minute.

936 \*Mr. Carter. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman,  
937 the socialist agenda that we are discussing today reveals the  
938 foolishness of the left.

939 My friends on the other side of the aisle have sought to  
940 appease the most liberal in their caucus in proposing  
941 legislation that reads like a socialist wish list. These  
942 reconciliation instructions will drastically expand the role  
943 of government on the backs of American families who will foot  
944 the bill.

945 In offering this socialist bill, my Democrat colleagues  
946 are proposing massive tax hikes. Our constituents and  
947 businesses need this money to survive through this pandemic,  
948 especially as we experienced record high inflation rates  
949 because of Biden's reckless spending.

950 It is just astounding that Energy and Commerce Democrats  
951 plan to spend more than \$1 trillion to advance their radical  
952 agenda for more Federal command and control over energy  
953 production and use, health care, and the entire economy. It  
954 is just ridiculous that we are focusing on this wish list  
955 instead of the crisis at our borders, and inflated economy,  
956 crime in our cities, and leaving behind Americans in  
957 Afghanistan.

958           In the end we all know this is really the Build More  
959   Inflation Act, and I yield back.

960           \*The Chairman. Thank you. Now we are going to go to  
961   Mr. Sarbanes, who is virtual -- is recognized for one minute.

962           \*Mr. Sarbanes. Thank you very much. Mr. Chairman, I  
963   want to thank you for honoring our late colleague, Elijah  
964   Cummings, by putting --

965           \*The Chairman. They are?

966           \*Mr. Sarbanes. -- in today's markup, the legislation  
967   that will reduce prescription drug --

968           \*The Chairman. Oh, he --

969           \*Mr. Sarbanes. I have occasioned many times to be  
970   with --

971           \*The Chairman. -- have his hand up?

972           \*Mr. Sarbanes. -- and to see how, on behalf of his  
973   constituents, he felt deeply the burden that high  
974   prescription drug prices were placing on families in  
975   Baltimore, and Maryland, and throughout the country.

976           It is very gratifying we are in a position now to move  
977   on this, and I thank you for that and all the other good  
978   pieces of the legislation we will be considering today, and I  
979   yield back.

980           \*The Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Sarbanes. Next we go to  
981   -- Mr. Palmer is recognized for one minute.

982           \*Mr. Palmer. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This markup is



983 another example of the Democrat socialism on steroids, and  
984 another example of Democrats rushing to achieve a political  
985 objective, much like the hasty and disastrous withdrawal from  
986 Afghanistan.

987         The Democrat Administration has left hundreds of  
988 Americans behind, who are now at the mercy of the Taliban,  
989 and this massive bill will leave millions of American  
990 families behind in jobs, income, and opportunity.

991         This bill is reminiscent of the 2009 Democrat stimulus  
992 bill that promised more jobs, higher wages, and a robust  
993 economic growth, but only prolonged the recession that was  
994 described by University of Chicago economist Casey Mulligan  
995 as the redistribution recession. He pointed out that, when  
996 people are paid more not to work, people work less or don't  
997 work at all. He estimated that the 2009 stimulus expansion  
998 of welfare and unemployment benefits meant that between two  
999 and three million people had as much disposable income while  
1000 unemployed as they would have by accepting a job that paid 80  
1001 to 100 percent of what they made at their previous job.

1002         I yield back.

1003         \*The Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Palmer. Next we go to --  
1004 Mr. Welch is recognized for one minute.

1005         \*Mr. Welch. Mr. Chairman, I am ready for this fight.  
1006 We have a disagreement. We have a plan here that is  
1007 ambitious, and long overdue. It is being described as a

1008 radical socialist agenda. But let me tell you what that  
1009 radical socialist agenda is.

1010 It is child care for families, where moms are trying to  
1011 work, but can't when they have to leave their children  
1012 unattended.

1013 It is affordable health care. We pay the highest  
1014 prescription drugs in the world, by far. And pharma, by the  
1015 way, got a tax cut and used it for share buybacks, not to  
1016 hire people to do R&D.

1017 It is for climate change. The planet is baking, is  
1018 flooded. The air we breathe is getting contaminated.

1019 This is about a plan that is going to be good for  
1020 American families, whether that family voted for Donald Trump  
1021 or Joseph Biden. Lower health care costs, access to health  
1022 care, taking care of your family, pre-K, these are  
1023 investments that are overdue, and a statement of confidence  
1024 that this Congress cares about the well-being of every, every  
1025 family in this country.

1026 I yield back.

1027 \*The Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Welch. Mr. Walberg is  
1028 next, he is recognized for one minute.

1029 \*Mr. Walberg. I thank you, Mr. Chairman. As I listen  
1030 to the conversation that is going on, I am reminded that,  
1031 while I respect and appreciate the fact that I have the  
1032 opportunity to serve with this committee, with friends on

1033 both sides of the aisle, yet what we are -- today we are  
1034 talking about is something that is not an investment in  
1035 positives. It is not a build back better. It is a buyoff of  
1036 special interests at the expense of freedom and opportunity.

1037 We have seen what took place when we gave up, and walked  
1038 away, and let the Taliban gain control.

1039 What we are doing today is we are not talking about some  
1040 of the things that my colleagues have said that are things we  
1041 could agree on, and we could work together on, smaller bills.  
1042 But we are taking a massive, massive approach here that will  
1043 destroy opportunity for our citizens, for our country. It  
1044 will not build back better. It will break down. It will  
1045 destroy, and it will frustrate.

1046 I would encourage, I would encourage us to step back and  
1047 do the right thing, as opposed to a political thing, and I  
1048 yield back.

1049 \*The Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Walberg. Next we go to  
1050 -- Mr. Schrader is recognized for one minute.

1051 \*Mr. Schrader. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to  
1052 say at the outset I really appreciate all the hard work the  
1053 chair and committee staff have done to get such bill ready in  
1054 this short of a time period.

1055 But we need to stop spending. The economy is recovered.  
1056 There are plenty of jobs out there. Wages are up  
1057 dramatically. We just spent over \$5 trillion the last 18

1058 months on COVID alone, more than -- over three times what we  
1059 spend on all defense and non-defense spending in one year.  
1060 And we have not cut any of our regular appropriations.  
1061 Indeed, we have increased it.

1062       Family health care, you know, families have an emergency  
1063 in their health area, they go to their savings, and take up  
1064 that money, and spend it, but they cut back on other  
1065 spending. We are not doing that. We are adding more to the  
1066 deficit.

1067       This is insanity. It is fiscally irresponsible. It is  
1068 a terrible process. In one month we put together a \$3.5  
1069 trillion bill that has no chance of passing the Senate,  
1070 virtually no member input, no amendments supposed to pass, no  
1071 hearings on this gargantuan bill.

1072       The members had no chance to represent their districts.  
1073 Well, I am going to represent mine.

1074       Thank you, Mr. Chair. I yield back.

1075       [Applause.]

1076       \*The Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Schrader. Next we go to  
1077 Mr. Dunn.

1078       \*Mr. Dunn. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am strongly  
1079 opposed to this bill, strongly opposed to a socialist vision  
1080 for America.

1081       This bill was drafted --

1082       \*The Chairman. -- curve?

1083           \*Mr. Dunn. -- to members of this committee late last  
1084 week.

1085           Additionally, major changes in the bill were made in the  
1086 form of amendments just yesterday.

1087           This bill will spend trillions of dollars of taxpayer  
1088 money in an attempt to drastically change the nature of our  
1089 economy. It will increase the cost of electricity, health  
1090 care, food, and have devastating consequences in virtually  
1091 every sector of the American economy.

1092           Over the last year Americans have seen the value of  
1093 their savings and wages diminish inflation. And this bill  
1094 will accelerate that problem for years.

1095           This is no way to run a country, let alone a democracy.  
1096 This bill should not go forward, and I urge all of my  
1097 colleagues to oppose it, and I would like to associate myself  
1098 with the comments of my friend, Representative Schrader.

1099           I yield back.

1100           \*The Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Dunn. So on the  
1101 Democratic side, who is next?

1102           \*Voice. We go to Peters.

1103           \*The Chairman. Mr. Peters is next, recognized for one  
1104 minute.

1105           \*Mr. Peters. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We are going to  
1106 address some very important priorities for the nation in this  
1107 markup. But we should recognize that, because of the nature

1108 of this process, much of our work will be academic.

1109       We are a marking to a total figure of \$3.5 trillion when  
1110 we know, as we sit here, that the numbing number coming back  
1111 from the Senate will be at least a trillion dollars lower,  
1112 and maybe more. Since the President and Speaker have both  
1113 committed, to their credit, that the package will be fully  
1114 paid for, that means that much of what we and the other House  
1115 committees approve will have to be scaled back.

1116       This, the bipartisan infrastructure package, took five-  
1117 and-a-half months. We are doing this bill in five weeks, and  
1118 this is a bigger bill. And because this process is so  
1119 rushed, it means that the individual members of this  
1120 committee will not be involved in making the hard choices our  
1121 constituents sent us here to make.

1122       Nevertheless, with the exception of the disagreement I  
1123 have over drug pricing, I am willing to work to forward this  
1124 package to the floor, but with the caveat that I can't commit  
1125 to what will be a very different final product before I see  
1126 it.

1127       I hope we can get this package into shape, and ensure  
1128 the Senate will support these policies, so we can get a bill  
1129 that can actually become law.

1130       And I yield back.

1131       \*The Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Peters. Next is -- Mr.  
1132 Curtis is recognized for one minute.

1133 Is he -- he is virtual, right?

1134 \*Voice. I think he is on mute.

1135 \*Mr. Curtis. Mr. Chairman?

1136 \*The Chairman. Yes, you are recognized for one minute.

1137 \*Mr. Curtis. Thank you. I will be very brief. I would  
1138 like to associate my comments with so many of my colleagues  
1139 this morning.

1140 As many of you know, I love to talk about local  
1141 government, and my time serving in local government. I can't  
1142 tell you the number of city council meetings and other  
1143 meetings I have attended, where constituents have complained  
1144 that they haven't had the proper time to understand what we  
1145 were doing, the proper notice, the proper opportunity to  
1146 review, and think thoroughly and thoughtfully about our work.

1147 I don't need to remind anybody of the amount of time  
1148 that all of us have had to absorb this bill, this  
1149 information, let alone our constituents. And I would just  
1150 like to go on the record as saying this is really poor  
1151 government, and I am hoping that all of us on all parties can  
1152 figure out a way to change this momentum, and do things in a  
1153 way that our constituents expect us to do.

1154 And with that, Mr. Chairman, I yield back.

1155 \*The Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Curtis. Next I recognize  
1156 Mr. Soto for one minute.

1157 \*Mr. Soto. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

1158           Today we make history by moving on the largest  
1159 infrastructure package in the history of our nation.

1160           Today is the day where we build back better. We will  
1161 make investments to combat climate change, finally, by  
1162 boosting clean energy and electric vehicle infrastructure.  
1163 We are making investments in health care to lower drug costs  
1164 for seniors, close the Medicaid gap, which is key in Florida,  
1165 and expand Medicare to cover hearing, vision, and,  
1166 eventually, dental.

1167           Worsening hurricanes, record floods, massive fires. And  
1168 what is the minority's solution? To do nothing. What is  
1169 the Democratic majority's solution? We will act.

1170           When the Republicans were in the majority, what did they  
1171 do? They passed a tax cut for the top one percent. What  
1172 are we doing with ours? Improving the lives of the other 99  
1173 percent of Americans.

1174           Thank you. And I yield back.

1175           \*The Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Soto. Next is Mrs.  
1176 Lesko, who is virtual and wants to be recognized for one  
1177 minute.

1178           \*Mrs. Lesko. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You know, you  
1179 called this bill --

1180           [Audio malfunction.]

1181           \*Mrs. Lesko. -- Better Act. It doesn't build back  
1182 America better, I will tell you that. In fact, I think it is



1183 going to hurt America. Especially the energy portion of this  
1184 bill is going to --

1185 \*The Chairman. Who is on our side?

1186 \*Mrs. Lesko. -- build back China better --

1187 \*The Chairman. Anybody or nobody?

1188 \*Mrs. Lesko. -- not America.

1189 And so we are spending money we don't have. We are  
1190 going to go more into debt. This isn't going to be totally  
1191 paid for. And it -- and the parts of it that are paid for  
1192 are going to increase taxes on everyone in America. This  
1193 bill is not ready for prime time. This is a bad bill for  
1194 America.

1195 And I yield back.

1196 \*The Chairman. Thank you. Next is -- Mr. O'Halleran is  
1197 recognized for one minute.

1198 \*Mr. O'Halleran. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I appreciate  
1199 that.

1200 This legislation package is put together --

1201 [Audio malfunction.]

1202 \*Mr. O'Halleran. -- full and complete accounting for  
1203 how much each specific provision will cost.

1204 As of right now, it is also clear that our committee  
1205 will be considering a number of items that are not pre-  
1206 conferenced with the Senate.

1207 The goals of the Build Back America Act (sic) are

1208 laudable, and I strongly support many items in today's  
1209 package, and will vote to -- so we can continue to improve  
1210 the package.

1211 Specifically, urgent action is needed to combat  
1212 existential threat of climate change; expand state, local,  
1213 and Federal public health agencies onward and onward.

1214 I look forward to speaking today on a number of issues  
1215 that I believe need to be addressed, from rural health care  
1216 to building our energy workforce. This is not buying off  
1217 anyone, but working to allow families to participate in our  
1218 great economy and quality of life for our citizens.

1219 I will continue to work with my colleagues on both sides  
1220 of the aisle to develop effective solutions to our issues.

1221 Thank you, and I yield back.

1222 \*The Chairman. Thank you, Mr. O'Halleran. Next we have  
1223 Mr. Pence, who is recognized for a minute.

1224 \*Mr. Pence. Thank you, Chairman Pallone and Ranking  
1225 Member Rodgers.

1226 Why are we rushing a trillion-dollars tax-and-spend  
1227 spree? Most experts project this will actually cost \$5  
1228 trillion, yet we are trying to push it ahead, anyway.

1229 This will bankrupt my children's future, my  
1230 grandchildren's future, and my great-grandchildren's future.  
1231 We can't afford this.

1232 In my home state of Indiana, the price of used cars is

1233 up 57 percent, food prices up 6.3, and gas is up 80 percent.  
1234 Inflation, inflation, inflation, taxes, taxes, taxes. You  
1235 all, obviously, want more inflation and taxes. Inflation is  
1236 a tax that hits the lower and middle-income classes harder  
1237 than anyone else. Think of the consequences of your actions  
1238 that will affect the hardworking Americans in this country.

1239 Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I yield back.

1240 \*The Chairman. Thank you. Then we are going to go to  
1241 Mr. Crenshaw for one minute.

1242 He is virtual, or -- Dan, did you want to speak?

1243 \*Mr. Crenshaw. Can you hear me now?

1244 \*The Chairman. You are recognized for one minute.

1245 \*Mr. Crenshaw. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Can you hear  
1246 me now?

1247 \*The Chairman. Yes.

1248 \*Mr. Crenshaw. Okay. Mr. Chairman, today we are here  
1249 to discuss what the majority and the Biden Administration are  
1250 calling Build Back Better.

1251 But I think this kind of legislation, and the name of  
1252 the legislation obfuscates the true intent of the bill  
1253 itself, at least the true meaning, and this is true across  
1254 many bills that are wrapped within this one: the Protecting  
1255 Americans with Preexisting Conditions Act, the For the People  
1256 Act, the Lower Drug Costs Now Act. None of these bills  
1257 accomplish what the names suggest, and quite the opposite, in

1258 fact, But they sound nice.

1259         And what is worse is this type of legislating wrapped in  
1260 false language of compassion and caring is nothing more than  
1261 bribery. And if it is not bribing special interests, and  
1262 teachers unions, and solar and wind boondoggles, then you are  
1263 bribing your own voters, promising them that you will take  
1264 care of their every need because you supposedly care the  
1265 most. But it is a false promise, and it is bribery. It is  
1266 not compassion, and it sucks money out of the free market,  
1267 where money is spent efficiently, and puts it in the hands of  
1268 bureaucrats.

1269         This crowds out investment. This lowers growth in the  
1270 long term. There isn't an economist who will disagree with  
1271 that. It puts Federal Government in control of energy  
1272 production use, health care, the entire economy, and all  
1273 while saddling our next generation, my generation, with  
1274 unprecedented debt and inflation.

1275         So let's just stick to the highlights real quick. We  
1276 are imposing a tax on natural gas, which is the single most  
1277 effective solution to reducing our emissions, back to 1990  
1278 levels. This will also drive up energy prices, kill energy  
1279 jobs, and, again, do nothing to help the environment.

1280         It will impose price controls on new lifesaving drugs.  
1281 The CBO has already said this will eliminate the development  
1282 of the unknown, and -- an unacceptable amount of new cures,

1283 eliminating the hopes of millions of patients struggling with  
1284 a deadly disease. Still --

1285       \*The Chairman. Your time is up, but if you want to  
1286 close, you know, wrap it up, go ahead.

1287       \*Mr. Crenshaw. So today I hope we can expose what is  
1288 actually in the bill today, instead of the compassionate  
1289 talking points. My sensible colleagues on the other side  
1290 will realize this is bad politics and bad policy.

1291       I yield back, Mr. Chairman, thank you.

1292       \*The Chairman. Thank you. Ms. Clarke is recognized for  
1293 one minute.

1294       \*Ms. Clarke. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, I  
1295 am pleased to see that this committee is considering a number  
1296 of historic and sorely needed investments to build back  
1297 better.

1298       I am particularly pleased, and I am heartened, by the  
1299 investments in maternal health, the electric vehicle charging  
1300 infrastructure, the Emergency Connectivity Fund, and consumer  
1301 privacy and data protection, and an expanding dental, vision,  
1302 and hearing coverage for our seniors under Medicare, among  
1303 others. This critical investment will strengthen our public  
1304 health infrastructure, protect the most vulnerable in our  
1305 society, and address rising costs related to climate change.

1306       However, there is one provision not currently under  
1307 consideration that I find very troubling. The decision is --

1308 not to include the provision to lower the Medicare  
1309 eligibility age is a decision to allow millions of Americans  
1310 to continue to live without access to affordable, quality  
1311 health care. In the long run, not expanding access to  
1312 Medicare will have disastrous consequences for the quality of  
1313 life for millions of uninsured Americans, as well as the  
1314 fiscal health of our nation.

1315 I urge the committee to reconsider and make this  
1316 critical investment in our nation's public health.

1317 With that, Mr. Chairman, I yield back.

1318 \*The Chairman. Thank you. And now we go to Mr. Joyce,  
1319 who is recognized for one minute.

1320 \*Mr. Joyce. Mr. Chair, today we are facing a piece of  
1321 record spending legislation that will serve to advance  
1322 inflation, and negatively affect every American. The tax  
1323 rate will be higher than the tax rate in Communist China.

1324 These reckless taxes will affect natural gas prices,  
1325 that same natural gas that has advanced energy independence  
1326 in America. This careless spending will drastically increase  
1327 costs to dairy farmers who struggle throughout my district in  
1328 Pennsylvania. Higher taxes. Unfathomable debt.

1329 Just weeks ago, in this conference room, we heard from  
1330 patients who were asking us -- and research the need for  
1331 additional dollars for life-threatening diseases.  
1332 Unfortunately, this will be crushed. As we consider this

1333 legislation, we must remember these patients. We must  
1334 remember our responsibilities. We must understand the tax  
1335 impacts of this spending bill on all Americans.

1336 Thank you, I yield back.

1337 \*The Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Joyce. Now, my  
1338 understanding is that no one else wants to make an opening  
1339 statement. But let me ask you now. Are there any other  
1340 members who seek recognition for an opening statement, either  
1341 who are here or virtual?

1342 Okay, so that concludes opening statements. Pursuant to  
1343 committee rules, members' written opening statements shall be  
1344 made part of the record. Please submit written opening  
1345 statements electronically to the email address that we have  
1346 provided.

1347 So at this time, we will begin bill consideration, and  
1348 the chair calls up the committee print Subtitle A: Budget  
1349 Reconciliation Legislative Recommendations Relating to Air  
1350 Pollution, and the clerk will report the title of the bill.

1351 \*The Clerk. Committee print Budget Reconciliation  
1352 Legislative Recommendations --

1353 \*The Chairman. And without objection, Madam Clerk, the  
1354 first reading of the bill would be dispensed with, the bill  
1355 is now considered as read.

1356 And without objection, the bill is considered as read,  
1357 and open for amendment at any point.

1358           [The bill follows:]

1359

1360       \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

1361



1362           \*The Chairman. So are there any members seeking  
1363 recognition to speak on the committee print?

1364           This is the air pollution one, right?

1365           Members participating remotely are reminded to use the  
1366 raise hand feature to seek recognition, and to use the lower  
1367 hand feature after you have been recognized.

1368           \*Mr. Tonko. Mr. Chairman?

1369           \*The Chairman. Yes, Mr. Tonko?

1370           \*Mr. Tonko. Was Representative -- okay, all right.

1371           Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment in the nature of a  
1372 substitute --

1373           \*The Chairman. Okay.

1374           \*Mr. Tonko. -- at the desk, labeled Subtitle A01.

1375           \*The Chairman. All right, so this is the ANS. The  
1376 clerk will report the Tonko substitute amendment.

1377           \*The Clerk. Amendment in the nature of a substitute to  
1378 committee print for Subtitle A --

1379           \*The Chairman. And without objection, the reading of  
1380 the substitute amendment will be dispensed with.

1381           [The amendment of Mr. Tonko follows:]

1382

1383           \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

1384

1385           \*The Chairman. And Mr. Tonko is now recognized for five  
1386 minutes.

1387           \*Mr. Tonko. Thank you, Mr. Chair. I want to start by  
1388 thanking you for your efforts on this entire package.

1389           Subtitle A is a critical component to the overall  
1390 package, focused on EPA investments to address air pollution.

1391           This ANS makes minor and technical changes to the  
1392 committee print that was circulated just last week. It also  
1393 adds an additional \$5 million to each of sections 3106, the  
1394 funding for states adopting vehicle standards, and 3109,  
1395 which is the funding for EPA to provide grants for advanced  
1396 biofuels, and an additional \$45 million for section 3107,  
1397 that is including more funding for air quality in schools.

1398           Overall, this amendment invests over \$37 billion in EPA  
1399 to address critical air pollution issues, including both  
1400 climate pollution and traditional air pollution. We know,  
1401 indeed, that low-income communities and communities of color  
1402 often bear a disproportionate burden from pollution. This  
1403 subtitle includes investments that will result in pollution  
1404 reductions from heavy-duty vehicles in ports, which are most  
1405 commonly found in these impacted communities. A significant  
1406 amount of funding will go toward deploying zero-emission  
1407 vehicles and equipment in these neighborhoods.

1408           The subtitle also provides some \$27.5 billion to invest  
1409 in nonprofit state and local financing institutions designed

1410 to rapidly deploy low and zero-emission technologies by  
1411 leveraging investment from our private sector.

1412 Other sections will fund grants to reduce diesel  
1413 emissions and the risks of smoke from wildfires. It will  
1414 support major enhancements to our nation's air pollution  
1415 monitoring network, which is long overdue to be upgraded and  
1416 expanded, especially in fenceline neighborhoods.

1417 This funding also invests in EPA. EPA has numerous  
1418 existing responsibilities that will be supported by this  
1419 funding, including upgrading its software and IT  
1420 capabilities. These upgrades will enable EPA to better  
1421 collect data, inform the public, and collaborate with state,  
1422 local, community, and industry partners.

1423 Finally, the subtitle establishes a fee that EPA must  
1424 impose upon and collect from the owners and operators of  
1425 certain facilities that report methane emissions. The fee  
1426 will raise new Federal revenues that EPA will use to  
1427 administer the fee, provide technical assistance to covered  
1428 entities, improve methane monitoring, and provide other  
1429 assistance to reduce methane pollution from petroleum and  
1430 natural gas systems.

1431 We know the consequences of climate change -- and  
1432 traditional air pollution, for that matter -- are  
1433 significant. The costs of our inaction are great, and  
1434 continue to grow with each passing Congress that fails to

1435 respond. This subtitle is the foundation of a strong  
1436 response. It will invest in EPA's capabilities, ensuring the  
1437 agency has access to robust data and sound science, which is  
1438 fundamentally important for the other climate-focused  
1439 investments in this package to be effective, and it will fund  
1440 deployment of new, zero-emission technologies.

1441 I urge all members to support this amendment, Mr. Chair,  
1442 in the nature of a substitute. And with that, I yield back.

1443 \*The Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Tonko.

1444 Does the ranking member seek recognition? The  
1445 gentlewoman is recognized.

1446 \*Mrs. Rodgers. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to  
1447 strike the last word.

1448 \*The Chairman. The gentlewoman is recognized for five  
1449 minutes.

1450 \*Mrs. Rodgers. Massive spending, higher taxes, and  
1451 expanded Federal Government control over our economy, health,  
1452 welfare. That may be music to my colleagues' ears to advance  
1453 their political agenda, but average Americans know the sound  
1454 of a wrecking ball to their household budgets, their job  
1455 prospects, their opportunities for a productive, prosperous,  
1456 and free life.

1457 This amendment to the subtitle that nobody -- maybe some  
1458 special interest groups, but outside of that nobody -- has  
1459 seen until Friday, prior to Friday, it follows the harmless

1460 -- the harmful theme of spend however much money it takes,  
1461 print however much money it takes to get command and control  
1462 over our lives.

1463         The spending in this subtitle reaches roughly \$37  
1464 billion at an agency whose net annual appropriation is 9  
1465 billion. Add in spending in other subtitles, and the EPA  
1466 will be managing more than 85 billion. That is 85 billion of  
1467 taxpayer dollars for unelected bureaucrats at the EPA to  
1468 enforce a radical political agenda with virtually no  
1469 accountability or care for lost jobs or rising inflation on  
1470 working families. Many of the provisions overlap or add to  
1471 funding Congress has already addressed, surging government  
1472 spending even higher, before we even understand where and  
1473 whether money is really needed.

1474         Why is the EPA even involved in spending five billion to  
1475 rebate the full cost of replacing medium and heavy trucks?

1476         How does the seven billion in the new EPA grant spending  
1477 for rooftop solar work?

1478         And how does it impact other issues, such as grid  
1479 reliability, and cost to electricity for ratepayers?

1480         Maybe downstream consequences and price increases on  
1481 working families are not EPA's concern, but these  
1482 consequences are real: lost jobs, more inflation, and  
1483 threats to keeping our lights on in a disaster.

1484         And why are Democrats taking \$20 billion from the

1485 American people to establish an unaccountable, private  
1486 national climate bank? This obscure program appears to be  
1487 for pet projects and kickbacks to fund a political agenda at  
1488 the expense of clean fossil energy, which Congress has worked  
1489 hard to promote.

1490 Several provisions relate to programs we funded in the  
1491 American Rescue Act, and are in the infrastructure package.  
1492 What is the extent of overlap and duplication on ports, and  
1493 air monitoring, local technical assistance?

1494 We don't know. We have had no hearings to review the  
1495 text.

1496 Beyond the massive spending, note that Democrats chose  
1497 to include several provisions as amendments to the Clean Air  
1498 Act, rather than standalone funding provisions. This reveals  
1499 a key goal of the bill: to transform our bedrock  
1500 environmental laws to achieve the left's radical political  
1501 agenda. It is a Federal takeover of our electricity system,  
1502 with new regulations and taxes to drive out American energy,  
1503 existing fossil and natural gas.

1504 This bill beefs up EPA regulatory authorities to shut  
1505 down American energy and undermine reliable and affordable  
1506 energy. It readies new provisions such as section 115 of the  
1507 Clean Air Act that will be a tool for international  
1508 environmental movements and, no doubt, China to use the Clean  
1509 Air Act to impose harmful decarbonization policies costing

1510 jobs and security.

1511       And of course, there is the natural gas tax to be  
1512 implemented and enforced by EPA, a program that represents a  
1513 direct attack on millions of hardworking Americans. It is a  
1514 tax on nearly every part of our lives, from the food we eat  
1515 to the clothes on our back.

1516       The impacts of these policies, like inflation, will far  
1517 past the budget window (sic). Indeed, they are part of  
1518 Speaker Pelosi's larger grand socialist agenda for radical  
1519 control of the American economy.

1520       The committee has developed no true understanding of the  
1521 cascading rising cost these policies will force on Americans.  
1522 And the more we go down this road, the more we are losing  
1523 sight of what we must do to get results the Americans want,  
1524 like the innovative technologies that build on existing  
1525 energy and industrial systems like nuclear, carbon capture,  
1526 natural gas, and hydropower.

1527       Let's focus on results, not just printing lots of money  
1528 to throw at a political agenda. Getting results takes  
1529 durable, bipartisan policymaking for a strong energy economy  
1530 and securing American supply chains, not a rush to green  
1531 spending in the Build More Inflation Act.

1532       I yield back.

1533       \*The Chairman. I thank the gentlewoman. Anyone on the  
1534 Democrat -- the gentlewoman from Illinois -- oh, Ms. Eshoo is

1535 first? Okay. Ms. Eshoo is recognized for five minutes.

1536 \*Ms. Eshoo. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to strike  
1537 the last word.

1538 Colleagues, air pollution causes seven million deaths  
1539 annually around the world, and its effects on our health and  
1540 economy are estimated by Stanford University, which I am so  
1541 proud to represent, to cost our country \$790 billion.  
1542 Today's legislation provides critical resources to protect  
1543 the air we breathe, including significant investments in  
1544 zero-emission school buses, air quality monitoring, and other  
1545 efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

1546 I don't know what is so socialistic about that. Every  
1547 single member has these problems in their congressional  
1548 district.

1549 Importantly, the bill provides \$150 million to state and  
1550 local governments to develop plans to prepare for smoke  
1551 caused by wildfires and mitigate its negative health impacts.  
1552 This provision is based on my legislation, the Smoke Planning  
1553 and Research Act, that I introduced with Senator Merkley in  
1554 2019.

1555 For several days in the summer of 2020, as hundreds of  
1556 wildfires burned across California, my constituents were  
1557 breathing the dirtiest air in the entire world. The haze was  
1558 so thick that streetlights came on during the day. Smoke  
1559 from wildfires contained toxic chemicals and particulate



1560 matter that can irritate the eyes and airways and, if severe  
1561 enough, trigger wheezing and burning eyes, and aggravate  
1562 chronic heart and lung diseases. It can drift hundreds of  
1563 miles, as many of you experienced, and is particularly  
1564 dangerous for children, the elderly, and those with  
1565 underlying health conditions.

1566         Research continues to show that wildfire smoke is more  
1567 dangerous than we previously understood. A study from the  
1568 University of Montana found that after bad wildfires the  
1569 subsequent flu season is three to five times worse than  
1570 average. A recent study from Harvard University also linked  
1571 last year's wildfires to hundreds of deaths from COVID-19 on  
1572 the West Coast.

1573         So the grants that are funded by this legislation will  
1574 help state and local governments better prepare for future  
1575 wildfire smoke, and protect the health of their residents.  
1576 These efforts can include creating shelters for at-risk  
1577 populations, and retrofitting schools with air filters so  
1578 students can continue to learn safely.

1579         Sadly, much of the West is burning again, and the threat  
1580 of wildfires and wildfire smoke is likely to persist, as  
1581 climate change causes these fires to occur more frequently.  
1582 Wildfire smoke community planning grants are a critical and  
1583 important investment in protecting air quality and the health  
1584 of millions of Americans, and that is why I urge my

1585 colleagues to support this legislation.

1586 And with that, Mr. Chairman, I yield back.

1587 \*The Chairman. Thank you, Ms. Eshoo. Do we have  
1588 someone on the Republican side?

1589 Mr. Burgess is recognized for five minutes.

1590 \*Mr. Burgess. Yes, I move to strike the last word.

1591 \*The Chairman. Oh, Mr. McKinley goes first, okay.

1592 \*Mr. McKinley. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I ask to  
1593 strike the last word.

1594 \*The Chairman. The gentleman is recognized.

1595 \*Mr. McKinley. And hopefully, to engage my colleague,  
1596 Paul Tonko, in a colloquy.

1597 This is the most important -- or the most -- this is the  
1598 most expensive bill in the Energy and Commerce history, and  
1599 we don't have a CBO score yet. It has been estimated that it  
1600 will cost over \$1.25 trillion, and it would make -- that  
1601 would make it the largest stand-alone bill in congressional  
1602 history, if it moves to the floor by itself.

1603 This markup is the only opportunity for the American  
1604 public to learn what is included, how we will pay for it, and  
1605 how it will impact their lives. Since the majority has  
1606 chosen to rush this massive, reckless spending-and-tax plan  
1607 without any type of regular order, we need to take the time  
1608 during this markup to understand the ramifications it will  
1609 have on American lives and livelihoods.

1610           For example, just last week the markup of the Natural  
1611 Resources Committee, which was only dealing with \$25 billion,  
1612 was cut short by the majority. They called for the previous  
1613 question and, in so doing, cut off all debate. Given our  
1614 bill is 50 times larger than theirs, it is imperative we  
1615 don't follow that lead, that precedent, and we allow for a  
1616 full and robust debate.

1617           So, Chairman Tonko, I am asking, as we begin this  
1618 discussion on these various subtitles, can you assure us that  
1619 Democrats will not -- that Democrats will allow us to take  
1620 the time to examine this bill in its entirety?

1621           Can you share with your thoughts?

1622           I yield to Chairman Tonko.

1623           \*Mr. Tonko. I believe the chairman wanted to address  
1624 the issue.

1625           \*Mr. McKinley. Okay, I couldn't -- I can't hear you  
1626 with your mask on. It helps, when we are deaf -- I read  
1627 lips.

1628           \*The Chairman. I apologize. So, look, we are going to  
1629 try to get -- as you know, we have noticed this for two days.  
1630 I mean, we have to get through it by tomorrow, because the  
1631 next day is Yom Kippur. And it is not a, you know, it is not  
1632 even a session day or committee day. So you know, you have  
1633 got -- we have got 48 hours here to go through it, but we are  
1634 -- I am not looking to -- so far, you know, we have had a

1635 full debate, and I anticipate we will. But I can't go beyond  
1636 tomorrow, because -- plus, you know, the budget resolution  
1637 has a deadline of September 15th. So that is the problem,  
1638 too, both the budget resolution and the Jewish holiday.

1639 \*Mr. McKinley. I yield to my friend from Virginia.

1640 \*Mr. Griffith. Mr. Chairman, if I might ask, I mean, it  
1641 is my understanding -- and I am not Jewish, but my  
1642 understanding is that Yom Kippur doesn't actually start until  
1643 sunset. And isn't it true that we could recess and come back  
1644 after the holiday?

1645 \*The Chairman. No, because the budget resolution that  
1646 was adopted has a September 15th deadline. And I would  
1647 rather not go to Wednesday morning, because people have to  
1648 travel. Remember, during Yom Kippur you are fasting and  
1649 praying, and you can't really travel. So I -- we have to get  
1650 done by tomorrow.

1651 \*Mr. McKinley. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance  
1652 of my time.

1653 \*The Chairman. So next is -- Ms. Schakowsky is  
1654 recognized for five minutes.

1655 \*Ms. Schakowsky. Well, I look forward to voting on this  
1656 to address air pollution.

1657 But I want to make one other point right now, because we  
1658 keep hearing over and over again about raising taxes. And I  
1659 think it is really important that everyone in this room

1660 acknowledge the fact that no taxes are going to be raised  
1661 unless you make over \$400,000. Now, that is not in the  
1662 jurisdiction of this committee. But I think it is important  
1663 not to misstate what the reality is.

1664         And, in fact, what we are going to be seeing is that  
1665 people and companies and businesses -- often who have made  
1666 billions and billions of dollars, and pay no taxes at all --  
1667 are going to finally pay their fair share.

1668         You know, we have a history, as I mentioned earlier, of  
1669 the Republicans cutting taxes on the very wealthiest  
1670 Americans. Those days are over right now. And no one who --  
1671 I am going to say it again -- who makes less than \$400,000,  
1672 as promised by the President of the United States, are going  
1673 to pay higher taxes.

1674         So I think that we should just stop the misleading  
1675 statements. I will call them lies, because it is just simply  
1676 not true that everyone is going to pay more in taxes.

1677         And I yield back.

1678         \*The Chairman. I thank the gentlelady. Dr. Burgess is  
1679 recognized for five minutes.

1680         \*Mr. Burgess. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And of course,  
1681 the methane fee will be assessed to any family or business  
1682 that happens to purchase methane. And if they purchase that  
1683 methane to produce electricity that a family then purchases,  
1684 that methane fee will cause that electricity purchase to now

1685 be at a higher dollar. So I don't think you can credibly say  
1686 that this will have no effect on anyone who earns less than  
1687 \$400,000 a year, unless you are going to establish an  
1688 elaborate rebate system for people in that price range.

1689 I think we have heard from the last two exchanges this  
1690 hearing is important. It is depressing, because we are  
1691 deciding the nation's fate for its energy sector for decades  
1692 to come. You know, unlike just spending our children's  
1693 inheritance, which is what we normally do, we are also now  
1694 crippling them with -- in their ability to be able to provide  
1695 for their families, because we are going to make the cost of  
1696 energy and the cost of everything that emanates from that  
1697 much more expensive.

1698 We have, in this country, come to expect that energy is  
1699 going to be reliable, and affordable, and easily accessible.  
1700 You turn on the light switch, and you expect something to  
1701 happen. You don't expect to have a notification from the  
1702 government that -- not today, we are going to wait until it  
1703 is perhaps easier to provide you with that energy.

1704 We are setting up higher costs, greater fragility of the  
1705 system. And, you know, being -- going through a bad winter  
1706 in Texas last year, I will tell you fragility in the system  
1707 comes with a cost, as well.

1708 So many of the provisions in subtitles A through D,  
1709 which cover energy and environmental issues, do pose grave

1710 challenges to our nation's energy systems. The worst is the  
1711 new tax on natural gas. We call this a methane fee, because  
1712 we don't want to say we are raising taxes on everyone. This  
1713 is nothing short of an attack on America's energy sector.

1714       As of 2020, 69 percent of the nation's energy came from  
1715 oil and natural gas. The natural gas tax will immediately  
1716 increase energy costs, and make it harder for American energy  
1717 production to succeed. Back home in Texas there are over  
1718 two-and-a-half million jobs that are directly supported by  
1719 the oil and gas industry. Should the natural gas tax take  
1720 effect, what is the future of these jobs? This industry has  
1721 delivered approximately \$1.7 trillion to America's GDP, and  
1722 over \$400 billion to Texas's own GDP.

1723       At a time when economic growth is so important, the  
1724 Build Back Better Act will only put more roadblocks on the  
1725 path to prosperity.

1726       Another concerning provision of the bill is the Clean  
1727 Energy (sic) Performance Program. The goal of this policy is  
1728 to reduce emissions from electricity generation by 80 percent  
1729 in less than a decade. While reducing emissions is a  
1730 laudable goal, it is important to note that great strides are  
1731 already happening. America leads the world in emissions  
1732 reductions, thanks to technological innovation and better  
1733 energy solutions.

1734       Instead of committing to what has been shown to work,

1735 the majority's legislation doubles down on failed concepts  
1736 from over a decade ago. And I say this with the benefit of  
1737 some experience. Mr. Chairman, I sat in this committee with  
1738 you in 2009, and we marked up the Waxman-Markey cap and trade  
1739 climate bill. And that legislation, which was supposed to  
1740 have increased energy prices and reduced energy emissions,  
1741 but after the bill failed to become law, studies that were  
1742 done actually showed that the Waxman-Markey bill would have  
1743 been worse for emissions production than what actually  
1744 occurred.

1745       After years of falling emissions, it is time to let  
1746 America's potential for rapid technological innovation and  
1747 abundant energy resources -- and get the government out of  
1748 the way. The Clean Energy (sic) Performance Program will  
1749 penalize energy producers for not building out clean energy  
1750 systems, despite Federal regulations and permitting  
1751 requirements delaying the deployment of those systems. How  
1752 can we expect our providers to abide by this bill, when the  
1753 Federal regulatory burdens continually get in the way? It  
1754 is simply the wrong approach.

1755       And then, of course, on top of everything is the  
1756 constant threat of inflation. Congress has provided  
1757 unprecedented amounts of money to chase after goods and  
1758 services, and the consequence has been inflation rates that  
1759 people haven't seen for decades.



1760           As someone who came of age in the 1970s, let me just  
1761 tell you, you don't want to go back down that road, that road  
1762 of the Carter years. It is time for us to get out of the  
1763 way, and allow our energy producers to do what they do best:  
1764 produce energy for the American people.

1765           I yield back.

1766           \*The Chairman. Thank you, Dr. Burgess. Next we are  
1767 going to go to Mr. McNerney, who is virtual, I guess. Mr.  
1768 McNerney is recognized for five minutes.

1769           \*Mr. McNerney. Thank you, Mr. Chair. I move to strike  
1770 the last word.

1771           \*The Chairman. The gentleman is recognized.

1772           \*Mr. McNerney. Thank you. Well, I am proud to support  
1773 the once-in-a-generation investment in improving our nation's  
1774 air quality. But my Republican colleagues continue to deny  
1775 the threat of climate change. The Republicans continue to  
1776 fight tooth and nail to keep us from stopping it, despite the  
1777 fact that the west half of the country is burning, and the  
1778 east half of the country is drowning, and this is just the  
1779 beginning of climate change.

1780           History is watching. History will remember this. After  
1781 experiencing a year-and-a-half of pandemic that attacks our  
1782 respiratory systems, we are acutely aware of how important  
1783 clean air is, and the long-term health damage that pollution  
1784 can cause.

1785           My district, the 9th district of California, sits in the  
1786 San Joaquin Valley, which has among the worst air quality in  
1787 the country, and remains in non-attainment for multiple  
1788 ambient air quality standards, this has led to very high  
1789 rates of asthma and other chronic health problems, as well as  
1790 frequent haze and air pollution that you can see. You can't  
1791 even drive in it sometimes. This pollution  
1792 disproportionately impacts low-income and disadvantaged  
1793 communities, who are more likely to live near sources of  
1794 pollution. The conditions in my district are due to a number  
1795 of polluting industries, including a port, heavy-duty freight  
1796 trucks, and agriculture, and have been exacerbated by  
1797 increasingly devastating wildfires.

1798           I am pleased to see the investments across a range of  
1799 programs that will improve air quality, including grants and  
1800 rebates to repeal heavy-duty -- to replace, excuse me, heavy-  
1801 duty vehicles with zero-emission vehicles, and with special  
1802 attention to those that serve non-attainment areas like my  
1803 district.

1804           This legislation also includes important funding for the  
1805 purchase and installation of zero-emission equipment at  
1806 ports. The EPA has found that communities that live near  
1807 ports are exposed to high levels of pollution that contribute  
1808 to health problems. I am proud to represent the Port of  
1809 Stockton, and welcome an investment in modern port

1810 infrastructure that would eliminate harmful air pollution.

1811 I am also pleased to see many other investments,  
1812 including grants to reduce the risk of health and  
1813 environmental effects from wildfire smoke, grants to reduce  
1814 diesel emissions from existing engines, and fundings for  
1815 expanding air quality monitoring and Clean Air Act  
1816 assessments.

1817 Finally, I am proud of this committee's work to include  
1818 a fee on methane emissions. Not only does methane cause  
1819 adverse health effects, but it is also a very strong  
1820 greenhouse gas that contributes to climate change. Funds  
1821 raised by this fee will be used to provide financial and  
1822 technical assistance to emitters to reduce and mitigate  
1823 methane pollution and improve monitoring.

1824 All together, these provisions represent a critical  
1825 downpayment on health of our communities and our environment.  
1826 I do urge my colleagues to support the ANS.

1827 I thank the chair, and I yield back.

1828 \*The Chairman. Thank you, Mr. McNerney. Mr. Johnson is  
1829 recognized for five minutes.

1830 \*Mr. Johnson. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You know, the  
1831 members of this committee have an enormous responsibility,  
1832 writing policies that impact virtually every critical  
1833 American industry. Each of us should be humbled by that. I  
1834 know I am.

1835           And I note that, while we are here today to debate this  
1836 massive bill that in many ways overhauls significant parts of  
1837 America's economy, few Members of Congress have actually  
1838 worked in the private sector that this majority now seeks to  
1839 dramatically overhaul. Very few have ever signed a check on  
1840 the front side, or have ever had to comply with the very  
1841 rules and regulations that emanate from the laws we pass. As  
1842 Members of Congress, we have the awesome responsibility to  
1843 not screw up what hardworking Americans outside the D.C.  
1844 Beltway have built.

1845           If this committee and this House get this wrong, the  
1846 damage could be lasting and permanent. This is especially  
1847 true for the energy provisions of this dangerous legislation.  
1848 The availability of affordable and reliable energy affects  
1849 global geopolitics, the pocketbooks of every working  
1850 American, and the bottom lines of every business in America,  
1851 both large and small.

1852           It is troubling to see efforts to tax natural gas, put  
1853 reliable, affordable coal and gas-fired power out of business  
1854 with a so-called performance program, and then plow tens of  
1855 billions of taxpayer dollars into green pet projects. This  
1856 is all designed to generate so-called clean power and a clean  
1857 economy. But after handing global energy dominance to China,  
1858 and Russia, and Iran, will America have a clean conscience  
1859 when this is all over?

1860           If the EVs, solar panels, and batteries we will discuss  
1861 today have components that are made by slaves in China, or if  
1862 the reports are true that lithium, copper, and rare Earth  
1863 minerals critical for a clean economy could start coming from  
1864 Taliban-controlled Afghanistan, then you can count me out.

1865           I mean, is all of this worth effectively sanctioning our  
1866 own economy, and handing our energy sovereignty to China?  
1867 And China is building hundreds -- that is hundreds, folks --  
1868 of new, coal-fired power plants right now, presumably to  
1869 manufacture critical components for America's so-called green  
1870 economy. Now, how does that make sense?

1871           It is not to say this committee doesn't have a  
1872 responsibility to look at ways to reduce emissions. And we  
1873 have done that. But we also have a duty to balance national  
1874 security, grid reliability, America's economy, and the jobs  
1875 that are created right here in America.

1876           In Ohio we don't want to sacrifice our energy industry  
1877 and the tens of thousands of good-paying jobs that come with  
1878 it. According to Ohio Jobs and Family Services, the average  
1879 oil and gas worker makes \$81,700 a year. If these workers  
1880 are suddenly put out of a job by this legislation, I guess my  
1881 Democratic friends will look to our climate envoy, John  
1882 Kerry, who infamously said -- and I quote -- "They can go  
1883 build the solar panels."

1884           Well, in Appalachia, solar farms are being built, many

1885 with foreign-made components. When completed, these sites  
1886 may support one or two permanent jobs. Does anyone here  
1887 think the worker whose job it is to cut the grass around the  
1888 local solar farm, which is one of the only jobs it creates,  
1889 is going to make as much money as a worker on an oil rig, or  
1890 a coal miner?

1891 Do any of my colleagues on the other side of the aisle  
1892 see this, and do they even care?

1893 Mr. Chairman, let's think about this before we rush to  
1894 green and turn our back on America's affordable and reliable  
1895 energy resources. I look forward to opposing this  
1896 desperately ill-conceived legislation. I urge my colleagues  
1897 to do the same.

1898 And with that, I yield back.

1899 \*The Chairman. Thank you. So now we go to Mr. Peters,  
1900 who is recognized for five minutes.

1901 \*Mr. Peters. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to strike  
1902 the last word.

1903 \*The Chairman. The gentleman is recognized.

1904 \*Mr. Peters. Okay, thank you.

1905 Wildfires are both a result of and a cause of climate  
1906 change. In 2020, 10 million acres burned across the United  
1907 States, including 4 million in California alone. That is  
1908 double the previous record of two million acres burned in a  
1909 single year in California. In 2018 wildfires caused \$31

1910 billion in public health impacts, and 29 billion in real  
1911 estate losses, nationwide.

1912         Firefighters are saying that the blazes they are  
1913 battling are more dangerous, severe, and unpredictable than  
1914 they have ever seen. Climate change is driving more  
1915 dangerous blazes by increasing temperatures, especially  
1916 extreme heat events, and causing more severe droughts. Those  
1917 two factors combine when longer droughts dry out fuels such  
1918 as shrubs and trees, and higher temperatures increase  
1919 evaporation rates. Over time, these changes have made fuel  
1920 available to burn. So when an ignition occurs, fires burn  
1921 faster and more aggressively.

1922         Wildfires are also significant drivers of climate  
1923 change, because they release carbon dioxide, black carbon,  
1924 brown carbon, and ozone precursors into the atmosphere. In  
1925 2020 California wildfires released 112 million metric tons of  
1926 carbon dioxide, which is about 50 million metric tons more  
1927 than the California power sector leases per year, and roughly  
1928 equivalent to the greenhouse gas emissions of 24 million  
1929 passenger vehicles driving in a single year.

1930         Our fire crisis is a result of multiple factors: good  
1931 -- or poor land use decisions over hundreds of years,  
1932 population growth into dangerous wildfire-prone areas, and,  
1933 of course, climate change.

1934         I have been working with my colleagues to create a more

1935 effective Federal response, one that provides the resources  
1936 needed to meet the challenges of the moment, and one that  
1937 considers future risks, especially a warming planet.

1938       Through the bipartisan infrastructure deal in this  
1939 budget deal, we have a historic opportunity to invest in  
1940 wildfire resilience and mitigation. In the bipartisan deal  
1941 we included funding to make our grid more resilient to  
1942 wildfires, and to reduce hazardous fuels through controlled  
1943 burns. On the latter investment, the bill authorizes nearly  
1944 \$3.4 billion for the Department of the Interior and the  
1945 Forest Service for wildfire risk reduction like thinning and  
1946 controlled burns.

1947       In the bill we are marking up today we included \$150  
1948 million to help communities mitigate the impacts of wildfire  
1949 smoke. Wildfire smoke is now a serious public health issue.  
1950 Smoke can travel large distances, even across the entire  
1951 United States; cause a variety of health impacts, from cancer  
1952 to mental health issues, especially for our firefighters on  
1953 the front lines. I can see smoke from the western fires in  
1954 D.C. today.

1955       While we have done an impressive job at reducing  
1956 particulate matter from other sources, wildfire smoke is now  
1957 the largest source of particulate pollution in the country.  
1958 We are continuing to learn more about its negative  
1959 consequences. And most recently, Stanford researchers found



1960 that exposure to wildfire smoke during pregnancy increases  
1961 the risk of preterm birth. The \$150 million investment in  
1962 this bill is a crucial first step. We should also explore  
1963 how EPA and other agencies can better address wildfire smoke.

1964 In other committees this budget bill is investing in  
1965 wildfire mitigation and resilience. Last week, the Ag  
1966 Committee included \$40 billion in investments for forestry  
1967 programs to help combat forest fires and build more resilient  
1968 forests. I co-sponsored Representative Crow's Outdoor  
1969 Restoration Partnership Act to advocate for investments like  
1970 these, and I will continue pushing to ensure both the final  
1971 infrastructure bill and this budget bill maintain these  
1972 historic investments.

1973 We have to combat these fires with the full strength of  
1974 the Federal Government. Our communities and our first  
1975 responders deserve nothing less.

1976 My prayers are with the brave firefighters battling the  
1977 fires currently burning, and I send our deepest condolences  
1978 to the families who lost homes, livelihoods, and loved ones.

1979 And Mr. Chairman, I yield back.

1980 \*The Chairman. Thank you.

1981 Mr. Griffith, you are recognized for five minutes.

1982 \*Mr. Griffith. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I appreciate  
1983 that.

1984 I want to bring this back to the September 15th

1985 deadline. It is my understanding that the Ways and Means  
1986 Committee met last week. They are continuing their markup,  
1987 and that committee is unlikely to conclude tomorrow.

1988 It is my understanding further that, while it was  
1989 suggested that we finish by September 15th, that is not a  
1990 hard and fast deadline, that it is a goal, but not a hard and  
1991 fast deadline.

1992 Also, it is my understanding that the minority is  
1993 entitled to two calendar days after the markup to file our  
1994 minority views. The committee, therefore, cannot report with  
1995 minority views its report until after September 15th. So the  
1996 earliest the DNC can file our reconciliation materials would  
1997 be Thursday the 16th, and that is if we were to finish today.

1998 So what we are doing -- and we are just -- we want to  
1999 make sure we have time to have everybody heard, and have all  
2000 the issues heard, and have all the amendments heard, because  
2001 if we were not to take any recesses, and we just started at  
2002 11:00, and we just continued all the way through until  
2003 midnight, as I understand it, tomorrow, if we did the whole  
2004 48 hours on the bill -- and I do appreciate the travel time  
2005 for those folks who do celebrate the holiday -- but with 48  
2006 hours, we would actually be spending, in our committee, \$4.34  
2007 million per minute, and that is debating -- \$4.34 million per  
2008 minute, and that is assuming if we did the whole 48 hours.

2009 We just feel like we need more time. And isn't it true

2010 that that you are bound by handcuffs to the September 15th  
2011 date?

2012 \*The Chairman. Well, I mean, they got rid of the jail  
2013 in the basement of the Capitol years ago, so --

2014 \*Mr. Griffith. Yes, but they have an annex. I visited  
2015 it once. It is across the way.

2016 \*The Chairman. So I don't think anybody is going to put  
2017 us in jail.

2018 \*Mr. Griffith. I agree.

2019 \*The Chairman. And I also don't listen to Ways and  
2020 Means, but that is okay if you want to mention them.

2021 But, look, let's just continue, all right? I mean, I  
2022 don't want to just keep repeating the same thing. I -- you  
2023 know, I think we have to -- you know, we have to finish by  
2024 tomorrow. And so far, I think we are doing okay. So let's  
2025 just keep going.

2026 \*Mr. Griffith. I thank the gentleman. I hope we will  
2027 continue, and I don't want to belabor it, but I am just not  
2028 sure we can do a good job for the American people if we must,  
2029 by an artificial edict, finish tomorrow.

2030 I yield back.

2031 \*The Chairman. The gentlewoman from Texas, Mrs.  
2032 Fletcher, is recognized for five minutes.

2033 \*Mrs. Fletcher. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to  
2034 strike the last word.

2035           \*The Chairman. The gentlewoman is recognized.

2036           \*Mrs. Fletcher. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate  
2037 the opportunity to speak on this ANS, and I appreciate the  
2038 work that you and the committee staff has engaged in, and  
2039 done to address my many concerns with the methane fee  
2040 provisions in the bill, several of which are reflected in  
2041 this ANS, which is why I wanted to speak on it now.

2042           I represent a lot of people who work in the field of oil  
2043 and natural -- natural gas extraction, transportation, and  
2044 storage. As we have discussed before, my constituents share  
2045 the concerns of the committee and the Congress, and they are  
2046 committed to reducing methane emissions and fighting climate  
2047 change.

2048           With Tropical Storm Nicholas bearing down on my district  
2049 as I speak at this moment, I can assure you that we have a  
2050 real interest in mitigating climate impacts that we see at  
2051 home and across the country, as we were just hearing from Mr.  
2052 Peters, and we know from our colleagues all too well.

2053           We also know that natural gas has a critical role to  
2054 play in our energy mix, right now and into the future.  
2055 Supporting exploration and production of natural gas will not  
2056 only create good, well-paying jobs and keep good, well-paying  
2057 jobs that currently exist, the kinds of things this Build  
2058 Back Better Act seeks to support, but it is vital to our  
2059 energy independence. And ensuring that U.S. natural gas

2060 stays a clean and competitive fuel source is key for domestic  
2061 energy production and for our national security.

2062         So, you know, to do this, we need extraction and  
2063 transportation policies that recognize that methane leaks  
2064 make American gas less competitive on the world market, and  
2065 make it harder to achieve our climate goals. So I have had a  
2066 lot of conversations about how this can best be done, about  
2067 the investment operators have already made, and are  
2068 continuing to make. And as you will recall, my constituents  
2069 supported the CRA this committee passed earlier this year,  
2070 repealing the Trump Administration's rollback of EPA methane  
2071 standards, and they did so vocally.

2072         I have also discussed with them the real impediments to  
2073 making these investments and improvements to asset integrity,  
2074 including regulatory delays and slow permitting, some of  
2075 which we worked to address last year in the PHMSA  
2076 reauthorization. They are also engaging in the EPA  
2077 rulemaking process on methane emissions right now.

2078         So it is against this backdrop that I have raised  
2079 concerns about the proposal that is before us today, and I  
2080 appreciate that you and the committee have worked with me to  
2081 address the problems with the methane proposal introduced in  
2082 the Senate by Senator Whitehouse, which called for a basin-  
2083 wide fee approach. I heard directly from my constituents  
2084 many problems with that approach, and I appreciate this

2085 committee's effort to tailor its approach to actual,  
2086 measurable, individualized emissions in an existing mechanism  
2087 where attainment is possible, something that the Senate bill  
2088 does not do.

2089         That said, the original section A raised many concerns  
2090 for my constituents, and left important provisions undefined  
2091 and uncertain. I appreciate that you have responded to  
2092 several specific concerns that I raised in this ANS: the  
2093 clarification of the fee, the extension of the implementation  
2094 date, and the creation of a higher intensity threshold for  
2095 natural gas transmission. As we have discussed, however, I  
2096 continue to have concerns about the provisions in this bill,  
2097 especially where additional clarity of its scope and impacts  
2098 is needed.

2099         And I also want to note that, while I appreciate this  
2100 framework omits other substantial sources of methane  
2101 emissions, I think it is important to address methane  
2102 emissions from all sources, not only from the sources that  
2103 are the subject of this title, but those that we know exist  
2104 in other sectors, including agriculture and waste management.

2105         I appreciate that you have committed to address my  
2106 concerns, and to work together to clarify and respond to  
2107 concerns in the final bill. Because of your commitment to  
2108 address the issues in this bill, and because, most important,  
2109 I believe this bill presents an important and more workable

2110 alternative to the Senate proposal that is preferable for the  
2111 House to present in negotiations and discussions with the  
2112 Senate as this bill moves forward, I intend to support this  
2113 subtitle today with the understanding that our work is not  
2114 done, it is not done here, and that you have committed to  
2115 work with me to address the continued concerns so that we can  
2116 get a final bill that I can support going forward.

2117 I appreciate your commitment to that work. I thank you,  
2118 and I yield back.

2119 \*The Chairman. I thank the gentlewoman. Thank you.

2120 Is Mr. Palmer next? Mr. Palmer is recognized for five  
2121 minutes.

2122 \*Mr. Palmer. I have my hand up. I thank the gentleman.  
2123 I want to address the issue of this false claim that people  
2124 under 400,000 in income will not pay taxes, and I want to  
2125 point out that, with all of the increases that are included  
2126 in this bill, everyone is going to pay more for goods and  
2127 services. It is in the form of a hidden tax.

2128 Businesses don't pay taxes, people pay taxes. They pay  
2129 them through higher prices for groceries, for household  
2130 utilities, for medicine. They are paying them right now at  
2131 the gas pump. The increased costs for energy in this bill  
2132 will impact the cost of everything, because energy is the  
2133 most inflationary component in our entire economy.

2134 There is an energy cost in everything that we have in

2135 front of us right now, whether it is what we are drinking, or  
2136 what we are using to write with. And those costs get passed  
2137 on to everyone. They don't delineate between the wealthy and  
2138 the poor. And energy costs are already up over 25 percent,  
2139 and we have seen the highest inflation we have seen in over  
2140 30 years. The last time I checked, it was over 6.4 percent,  
2141 and it is mainly driven by energy costs, which creates this  
2142 hidden tax that is in this -- that is passed on to everyone.

2143 And what is in this bill will disproportionately impact  
2144 low-income families and elderly households on fixed incomes.  
2145 And despite my Democrat colleagues' attempts to deny this  
2146 massive increase -- increases in this bill, it is really a  
2147 massive tax on everyone, period, no matter what their income  
2148 is.

2149 And I would also like to address this issue of the air  
2150 quality over California. Now, I understand what is going on  
2151 with the forest fires. I was out there this summer, talking  
2152 with the aerial firefighters about what they were facing.  
2153 And their big concern was not only the weather that they are  
2154 dealing with, but the amount of fuel on the ground, which  
2155 significantly increases the intensity of the fires.

2156 And I would also like to point out that 25 percent of  
2157 the air pollution in this -- skies over California originated  
2158 in China. So California is getting hit on multiple levels,  
2159 not the least of which is foreign-born air pollution, along



2160 with the problems they are dealing with from the forest  
2161 fires.

2162         And then the last point I want to make is I have really  
2163 enjoyed reading this book, "Unsettled," by Steven Koonin,  
2164 who was undersecretary for science in the U.S. Department of  
2165 Energy during the Obama Administration. And what I am about  
2166 to share with you is consistent in the reports, whether it is  
2167 the International Panel on Climate Change 5th Annual Report  
2168 or the National Assessment on Climate that the U.S.  
2169 Government puts out. But the key here is there is no  
2170 significant trend in the global number of tropical cyclones,  
2171 nor has there any trend been identified in the number of  
2172 land-falling hurricanes in terms of the number of storms or  
2173 their intensity. And this is multi-decadal. I mean, this is  
2174 going back to the mid-1800s.

2175         So you can keep talking about all of these things that  
2176 are -- you think are caused by human activity. And I will  
2177 tell you the climate is changing, and we are not preparing  
2178 for the change that is coming. And this bill does not  
2179 prepare us for the climate change that is coming that we  
2180 can't do anything about. And I just -- I think we need to  
2181 stick to the science. We need to stick to the facts, and we  
2182 need to tell the truth about this bill, Mr. Chairman. It is  
2183 a massive increase in cost on the entire population of the  
2184 United States, and disproportionately on low-income families

2185 throughout the country.

2186 And I yield back.

2187 \*The Chairman. Thank you. Next is Ms. Barragan -- is  
2188 virtual?

2189 \*Ms. Barragan. Thank you --

2190 \*The Chairman. -- recognized for five minutes.

2191 \*Ms. Barragan. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to  
2192 strike the last word.

2193 \*The Chairman. The gentlewoman is recognized.

2194 \*Ms. Barragan. Mr. Chairman, Subtitle A includes a  
2195 critical \$3.5 billion investment to reduce air pollution at  
2196 ports by providing grants and rebates for the purchase and  
2197 installation of zero-emission technology.

2198 Nearly 40 percent of Americans live within 3 miles of a  
2199 port, and will benefit from these investments in clean air.

2200 In my district the Port of Los Angeles is a major  
2201 economic engine, and it touches every congressional district  
2202 across the country. But it is also a major source of  
2203 pollution. We have some of the worst air quality in the  
2204 country, and it disproportionately impacts communities of  
2205 color and economically disadvantaged communities in South Los  
2206 Angeles. For decades my constituents have advocated for the  
2207 zero-emission solutions this 3.5 billion ports investments in  
2208 the Build Back Better Act will deliver. It is a long overdue  
2209 investment in environmental justice, in climate action, and

2210 in jobs.

2211 I urge my colleagues to support Subtitle A, and the  
2212 long-overdue investments in clean air for our ports  
2213 community.

2214 Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I yield back.

2215 \*The Chairman. Thank you. So we are on the Tonko  
2216 substitute. Does anyone else want to speak on that?

2217 Ms. Matsui would like to -- oh, is there a Republican?

2218 Okay, we will recognize Ms. Matsui for five minutes.

2219 \*Ms. Matsui. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I move  
2220 to strike the last word.

2221 In line with the global pandemic and the devastating --  
2222 impacting one in three Americans, and causing billions of  
2223 dollars in damages, we really must prioritize investments  
2224 that help improve the health of our communities and lower  
2225 carbon emissions to combat the climate crisis.

2226 I -- one of the legislative items, very popular items,  
2227 included in this section is the Diesel Emission Reductions  
2228 Act, or DERA, which is a popular bipartisan program that I  
2229 have long championed. DERA has successfully helped retrofit  
2230 polluting diesel engines with cleaner technologies, lowering  
2231 transportation pollution, and improving air quality for  
2232 communities nationwide.

2233 Additional DERA investments through the Build Back  
2234 Better Act are crucial to meet the challenges of the climate

2235 crisis and COVID-19. These funds can help protect our  
2236 communities from the health and environmental harms of  
2237 transportation pollution during a critical time in our  
2238 nation's history.

2239 I urge my colleagues to support the DERA investments in  
2240 this legislation, and I support all the other legislative  
2241 items in this section.

2242 And with that, I yield back. Thank you.

2243 \*The Chairman. I thank the gentlewoman. Anyone else on  
2244 the Tonko substitute?

2245 If not, we are going to move to amendments.

2246 Oh, Mrs. Dingell, Mrs. Dingell is recognized for five  
2247 minutes.

2248 \*Mrs. Dingell. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Sorry, I have  
2249 been having COVID and technology issues this morning.

2250 I rise in support of Subtitle A, an important --  
2251 important investments it will make aimed at curbing air  
2252 pollution, which will benefit every generation of Americans.

2253 And I really want to comment to some of my colleagues  
2254 who are asking why the urgency. Since the end of June, my  
2255 district has had seven once-in-a-lifetime floods. Just in my  
2256 home town, 20,000 homes have had damage. Every time it  
2257 rains, we are getting thunderstorms and tornadoes now, and  
2258 water is going above the first floor windows of several of my  
2259 communities. People are really desperate. And we talk -- I

2260 feel awful of what has happened in Louisiana, in New York,  
2261 and New Jersey, and Connecticut. But the Midwest is hurting.  
2262 Global climate is real, and once-in-a-lifetime storms are  
2263 coming every week.

2264         The Build Back Better Act invests 27.5 billion in  
2265 nonprofit, state and local climate financing institutions  
2266 that are designed to rapidly deploy low and zero-emission  
2267 technologies by leveraging investment from the private  
2268 sector. Across the United States these financing  
2269 institutions have proven successful track record of making  
2270 investments that create a healthier and most -- more  
2271 prosperous communities.

2272         Over the last decade, 15 of these state and local  
2273 programs, which are -- you know, why do we always have to  
2274 look at everything as a red or blue state? They are in 15  
2275 states across the country that have generated more than 5 3  
2276 billion (sic) in climate and clean energy investments by  
2277 leveraging public and private capital. Michigan is one of  
2278 them. But actually, it started under a Republican governor.  
2279 And these investments have created tens of thousands of jobs.

2280         Through the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund, the Build  
2281 Back Better Act makes critical investments to expand these  
2282 efforts across the United States. These funds will be used  
2283 to invest directly in projects that reduce emissions at the  
2284 national, state, and local levels, while also supporting the

2285 establishment or expansion of state and local climate  
2286 financing institutions that can tailor investments to their  
2287 specific priorities and preferences.

2288 Tackling the climate crisis requires all of us to be  
2289 hands on deck, and that is why it is so important, what we  
2290 are doing today. Too many of our communities, including  
2291 frontline communities and schools, are plagued these days.  
2292 So I am pleased that these important programs are included in  
2293 the Build Back Better.

2294 I urge my colleagues to support them. My community  
2295 can't -- just can't keep flooding the way that it is. Thank  
2296 you, and I yield back.

2297 \*The Chairman. I thank the gentlewoman. I think you  
2298 are the last one before we go to amendments. All right.

2299 So are there any members who seek recognition to offer  
2300 an amendment to the Tonko amendment in the nature of a  
2301 substitute?

2302 Mr. Crenshaw has an amendment. What is your amendment  
2303 labeled?

2304 \*Mr. Crenshaw. No, Mr. Chairman, I had my hand up to  
2305 strike the last word.

2306 \*The Chairman. Oh, you want to strike the last word?  
2307 Okay, I am sorry. We will go back to that. You are  
2308 recognized for five minutes.

2309 \*Mr. Crenshaw. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to

2310 strike the last word.

2311 \*The Chairman. You are recognized.

2312 \*Mr. Crenshaw. Look, I just want to address some of the  
2313 things being said. There has been claims that Republicans  
2314 deny climate change, and I would say that the people who said  
2315 that deny climate change themselves, especially being from  
2316 California, where they are shutting down nuclear plants.

2317 If climate change was indeed the emergency that many say  
2318 it is, then we would spend a fraction of the dollars we are  
2319 talking about right now, and we would build a bunch of  
2320 nuclear plants. We would have reliable, carbon-free energy.  
2321 That is what we would be doing. But in California they are  
2322 shutting them down, and they are complaining to us about the  
2323 wildfires.

2324 Here is the thing. The Intergovernmental Panel on  
2325 Climate Change says the number-one thing you can do to  
2326 mitigate wildfires and their carbon footprint is forest  
2327 management. Studies by the Forest Service say the exact same  
2328 thing. Okay, you are not on fire in California because it is  
2329 a couple of degrees hotter and a little bit drier. That  
2330 might intensify it just a little bit. But the primary cause  
2331 -- and everybody knows this -- is bad forest management.

2332 And so if you destroy our Texas oil and gas industry --  
2333 and California's Texas oil -- oil and gas industry, by the  
2334 way, America's oil and gas industry, raise our energy prices,

2335 raise our gas prices, make us energy dependent, instead of  
2336 energy independent, make it harder for the poor to afford to  
2337 heat their homes, to air condition their homes, you do all  
2338 that, you ruin our farming industry with the methane tax,  
2339 increase prices on food across the board, Americans will be  
2340 hurting drastically.

2341 Do you really think that, all of a sudden, you are not  
2342 going to see any storms, or that wildfires are just going to  
2343 stop now, or at 100, or even 200 years? Absolutely not.  
2344 Not until you get forest management under control.

2345 If we want to talk about the science, by the way, yes,  
2346 there are storms. We are going to have a storm here today,  
2347 here in Texas. But guess what? We have been having that  
2348 for a very long time, a very long time. And according to the  
2349 science, if we are going to talk about the science, storms  
2350 will intensify because of climate change by about five  
2351 percent. That is what the actual science says, guys. But  
2352 they are going to decrease in frequency by about 25 percent.

2353 If we are going to listen to the science, let's quote  
2354 the science, and let's talk about the costs and benefits. Do  
2355 you think Republicans don't want to do anything about  
2356 mitigating carbon emissions? Nothing could be further from  
2357 the truth. We want to do the things that work, and that also  
2358 create reliable energy. That is why we are against this  
2359 bill.



2360           Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I yield back, and reserve the  
2361 rest of my time.

2362           \*The Chairman. Thank you. Now again, does anybody want  
2363 to speak on the Tonko substitute before we go to amendments?

2364           All right. So then, are there any members who seek  
2365 recognition to offer an amendment to the Tonko amendment in  
2366 the nature of a substitute?

2367           \*Mrs. Rodgers. Mr. Chairman?

2368           \*The Chairman. Yes, the ranking member. What is your  
2369 amendment labeled? Do we know? Maybe there is only one, I  
2370 don't know. Does the clerk have the amendment?

2371           \*Mrs. Rodgers. I am not sure.

2372           \*The Clerk. Is it B113?

2373           \*Mrs. Rodgers. Do I know which one it is?

2374           \*The Chairman. Is there one on the top?

2375           \*Mrs. Rodgers. Yes, yes.

2376           \*The Chairman. All right, yes. The clerk will report  
2377 the amendment.

2378           \*The Clerk. Amendment to Subtitle A offered by Mrs.  
2379 Rodgers of Washington.

2380           \*The Chairman. Without objection, the reading of the  
2381 amendment will be dispensed with.

2382

2383

2384

2385           [The amendment of Mrs. Rodgers follows:]

2386

2387       \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

2388

2389           \*Mr. Tonko. Mr. Chairman?

2390           \*The Chairman. Yes?

2391           \*Mr. Tonko. I reserve a point of order on the  
2392 amendment, please.

2393           \*The Chairman. Mr. Tonko reserves a point of order, and  
2394 the gentlewoman is recognized for five minutes.

2395           \*Mrs. Rodgers. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My amendment  
2396 is simple. It would strike the natural gas tax from the  
2397 underlying draft.

2398           Unfortunately, much of this proposal is an assault on  
2399 reliable and affordable energy to appease radical  
2400 environmentalists on the far left. The natural gas tax will  
2401 impact our entire economy by making it more expensive to heat  
2402 homes, cook, eat, and manufacture thousands of products, from  
2403 PPE to medicines to solar panels. This new natural gas tax  
2404 is a punitive tax designed to artificially raise the price of  
2405 natural gas to discourage job-creating investments in fossil  
2406 fuels, and force a radical transformation of American life.

2407           I think about the restaurant owner from Spokane who told  
2408 me that it is getting harder to manage a budget and buy the  
2409 basics. Food is more expensive, and grocery stores can't  
2410 keep their shelves stocked because there is not enough  
2411 workers to move product off of trucks. She is struggling to  
2412 purchase food for her menu. She said she cringes at the  
2413 thought of raising her prices, because most of her customers

2414 are elderly. What will she do when everything is more  
2415 expensive, thanks to the natural gas tax in the Build More  
2416 Inflation Act?

2417       We know that Americans overwhelmingly oppose new taxes.  
2418 This new natural gas tax will generate a significant cost for  
2419 every American household, and eliminate a substantial number  
2420 of jobs across our entire economy. Based upon an economy-  
2421 wide analysis, the natural gas tax could reduce U.S. GDP by  
2422 \$9.1 billion, and result in 90,000 jobs lost. The natural  
2423 gas tax will increase prices for every American who relies on  
2424 natural gas for home heating, cooking, electricity.

2425       However, the burden will fall disproportionately on  
2426 lower-income and rural Americans. According to the Energy  
2427 Information Administration, one-third of households have  
2428 difficulty meeting their energy needs, a challenge that has  
2429 only been made more difficult by the COVID pandemic. This  
2430 new natural gas tax would result in more than a 12 percent  
2431 increase in utility bills, which is more than \$100 for the  
2432 average household.

2433       Why would Democrats want to raise taxes on struggling  
2434 Americans during a pandemic?

2435       President Biden and the Democrats are threatening our  
2436 national security at home and abroad. On President Biden's  
2437 first day in office he canceled the Keystone XL pipeline,  
2438 cutting thousands of construction workers out of a job.

2439 President Biden imposed a moratorium on drilling on Federal  
2440 lands, while giving the green light to Russia to build the  
2441 Nord 2 pipeline. At the same time, President Biden is  
2442 begging OPEC and Russia to increase oil production, as our  
2443 prices at the pump are skyrocketing. We are nearly to the  
2444 Obama-era highs of over \$4 a gallon.

2445 President Biden has promised not only to raise taxes on  
2446 any household making -- oh, he has promised not to raise  
2447 taxes on households making less than 400,000. This tax  
2448 breaks that promise by increasing taxes on every single  
2449 American household, regardless of their income levels.

2450 This natural gas tax has never been the subject of a  
2451 congressional hearing to understand the impact that it will  
2452 have on American families. The majority slipped it in in the  
2453 dark of night, because they know how unpopular it is going to  
2454 be.

2455 I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting an  
2456 amendment to strike the natural gas tax, and correct this  
2457 injustice. Lower-income and rural Americans should not be  
2458 forced to pay more for their energy.

2459 Thank you, I yield back.

2460 \*The Chairman. Thank you. So this is the Rodgers  
2461 amendment to the Tonko substitute.

2462 Ms. Castor is recognized for five minutes.

2463 \*Ms. Castor. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last

2464 word.

2465 \*The Chairman. The gentlewoman is recognized.

2466 \*Ms. Castor. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am speaking  
2467 out in opposition to the McMorris Rodgers amendment, because  
2468 we are all dealing with the devastating consequences of a  
2469 rapidly warming planet.

2470 We know this, but here are a few facts. July 2021 was  
2471 the hottest month ever recorded, and the past decade made up  
2472 the hottest decade in history. The last 7 years were the  
2473 hottest in history, with the 10 hottest year on record. They  
2474 have all occurred in the last two decades, according to NOAA.

2475 And it has become very personal for so many Americans.  
2476 More Americans are facing higher costs this summer. Nearly  
2477 one in three Americans experienced a climate-fueled weather  
2478 disaster in their community, and nearly two in three  
2479 experienced a heat wave that lasted multiple days. These  
2480 climate-fueled disasters come at a great cost. Last year the  
2481 U.S. spent nearly \$100 billion responding to major disasters  
2482 and extreme weather events. And it is getting more  
2483 expensive. In fact, the nonpartisan Government  
2484 Accountability Office has warned us that climate change poses  
2485 a high economic risk to America, and that government-wide  
2486 action is needed to protect our national economy and reduce  
2487 our fiscal exposure.

2488 And you bet it has become personal. Deaths in the past

2489 5 years -- it -- just over the past 5 years, nearly 4,000  
2490 Americans have died because of extreme weather events and  
2491 disasters. Every year we lose about 700 Americans to heat-  
2492 related deaths. In 2021, in the heat waves, nearly 200  
2493 Americans in Oregon and Washington State died, just this  
2494 summer, as they shattered temperature records across the  
2495 West. Hurricane Ida, 84 Americans died across 8 states just  
2496 a few weeks ago. And that bizarre cold snap in Texas in  
2497 February, 200 Texans died during that bizarre cold snap that  
2498 cut power to 5 million Texans. The Federal Reserve Bank of  
2499 Dallas says that that cost at least 80 to \$130 billion in  
2500 direct/indirect economic losses, and they think that is a  
2501 conservative estimate.

2502         So this amendment is targeted towards eliminating our  
2503 very modest methane fee. Methane, over 20 years, is more  
2504 than 80 times -- it traps more than 80 times the amount of  
2505 heat than CO2. It is a major contributor to the climate  
2506 crisis, because methane escapes at every point of the oil and  
2507 gas production. It escapes when it is extracted, it escapes  
2508 when it is transported, it escapes when it is refined. And  
2509 these leaks undermine any climate benefit that fracked gas,  
2510 natural gas has, when compared to coal.

2511         Methane pollution in 2020 represented the largest annual  
2512 increase recorded since systemic measurements began in 1983.  
2513 So moving quickly to reduce this super pollutant is one of

2514 the most immediate and powerful ways to start solving the  
2515 climate crisis. The methane fee in this bill is a great  
2516 start. It would incentivize companies to find and fix leaks,  
2517 and stop intentional emissions like venting and flaring. It  
2518 is a very important tool to solve the climate crisis, to  
2519 improve air quality, and to protect the health of communities  
2520 across the country.

2521 So I urge my colleagues to oppose this amendment. In  
2522 doing so, they are voting to lower costs on American families  
2523 and businesses. Thank you, I yield back.

2524 \*The Chairman. Thank you. The gentleman from West  
2525 Virginia?

2526 \*Mr. McKinley. Mask -- were you talking to me?

2527 \*The Chairman. Yes, I thought you wanted to speak.

2528 \*Mr. McKinley. I couldn't see with the mask on.

2529 \*The Chairman. I know, the mask, I apologize.

2530 \*Mr. McKinley. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

2531 \*The Chairman. All right.

2532 \*Mr. McKinley. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last  
2533 word in support of this amendment.

2534 \*The Chairman. The gentleman is recognized.

2535 \*Mr. McKinley. Mr. Chairman, the natural gas tax in  
2536 this bill is an unadulterated assault on the American oil and  
2537 gas industry.

2538 But what would be the effect on West Virginia? That is



2539 the -- we have become the fourth largest gas -- we have the  
2540 fourth largest natural gas reserves of any state. We are the  
2541 sixth largest producer in the nation. And last week EIA, Mr.  
2542 Chairman, reported that the natural gas production in the  
2543 Appalachian Basin became the third largest producer in the  
2544 world, behind only Russia and the rest of the United States.

2545         So finally, Appalachian communities may be able to  
2546 emerge from their generational poverty. But instead, this  
2547 legislation Democrats are calling to impose -- to depress  
2548 this opportunity, and shamelessly proposing -- or imposing a  
2549 tax to discourage its use.

2550         Look, Mr. Chairman, as you know, natural gas is a key  
2551 ingredient in the manufacturing of thousands of products,  
2552 from PPE to solar panels to iPhones. But this tax would make  
2553 it more expensive to produce these products, and outsource  
2554 jobs and production overseas. Didn't we learn anything  
2555 during the pandemic about our reliance on China and overseas  
2556 providers?

2557         This tax would also make it more expensive for  
2558 consumers. As the majority pushes America to 100 percent  
2559 renewables, and tries to eliminate fossil fuels, the American  
2560 Natural Gas Association has found that this tax would add  
2561 between 85 and \$242 a year to energy bills. And according to  
2562 the Yale study at Yale University, 50 percent of Americans  
2563 are not willing to pay any more for their renewable costs.

2564           So is it really in Americans' best interests to pursue  
2565 this tax? Remember, Congress already passed a CRA earlier  
2566 this year that would impose strict regulations on methane  
2567 emissions. And in your legislation, under the Clean Future  
2568 Act, section 902 would impose a 3-year moratorium for permits  
2569 for new and expanded facilities that develop plastics from  
2570 natural gas.

2571           Mr. Chairman, what do you have against natural gas? In  
2572 football terms, this trifecta would be likened to piling on,  
2573 and you would be assessed a 15-yard penalty.

2574           Thank you, and I yield back the balance of my time.

2575           \*The Chairman. Thank you.

2576           All right, so let me just ask. If you have your hand  
2577 raised virtually from the last one, could you please lower  
2578 your hand virtually, so we don't get confused?

2579           I think that Ms. Eshoo is the one that is not left over  
2580 from the last one.

2581           Ms. Eshoo, you are recognized for five minutes.

2582           \*Ms. Eshoo. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just move to  
2583 strike the last word to speak on the amendment.

2584           I am -- I really am taken back by this all-out  
2585 enthusiastic support of fossil fuels. I would say to my  
2586 colleagues, examine the automobile industry, really, all over  
2587 the world. Why are they moving to all-electric vehicles?  
2588 Why is there such a demand for them?

2589           I mean, this is the private sector. Have you gone to  
2590 Detroit to talk to them, talk them out of it, that we have  
2591 efficient systems, that we move to that in terms of the  
2592 Federal fleet?

2593           Your argument is about yesterday. It is not about the  
2594 future. Any society that isn't moving away from fossil fuels  
2595 does not have a bright future. We know what is attached to  
2596 it. We know what the emissions do. They have an effect on  
2597 all of us, and all of our communities. We are paying a heavy  
2598 price for not having it -- done it sooner.

2599           I, for one, am tremendously excited about what has come  
2600 out of my own congressional district: Tesla. We made an  
2601 investment through the Department of Energy years ago, almost  
2602 \$700 million for a loan, so that those batteries could be  
2603 developed, and they were. And Tesla paid the loan back  
2604 earlier, and with interest to the American people.

2605           So to argue -- to have an amendment in 2021 that raises  
2606 up and places fossil fuels on the altar of, supposedly, the  
2607 future, I think that this is really a march to folly. It  
2608 really is a jaw dropper to me.

2609           You want to talk about special interests? You want to  
2610 talk about special interests? Fossil fuels. Come on, come  
2611 on. That is not the future. And it really should not be the  
2612 future for the United States of America.

2613           And with that, I yield back.

2614           \*The Chairman. I thank the gentlewoman. Mr. Palmer is  
2615 recognized for five minutes.

2616           \*Mr. Palmer. I move to strike the last word.

2617           \*The Chairman. The gentleman is recognized.

2618           \*Mr. Palmer. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to  
2619 address something one of my Democrat colleagues said about  
2620 the bizarre polar vortex that struck the State of Texas and  
2621 much of the Midwest, and just point out that that polar  
2622 vortex was predicted by a group of observers in Europe around  
2623 January, and predicted almost to the week when it would hit.

2624           And the reason they were able to do that -- and again,  
2625 this is sticking with the science, and the history of our  
2626 climate -- the reason they were able to make that prediction  
2627 was they were observing the atmospheric conditions above the  
2628 Arctic, and they matched almost exactly the atmospheric  
2629 conditions the last time we had a polar vortex of -- a super  
2630 vortex of that magnitude in 1929. These were first observed  
2631 in the 1840s, they were even mentioned in a magazine that --  
2632 Charles Dickens was one of the editors in the 1850s. We had  
2633 one in the 1880s, in which the temperature in Lafayette,  
2634 Indiana hit -32.

2635           These are not unusual. They occur about six per decade.  
2636 Not of that intensity, those are rare, you know, maybe once  
2637 100 years, or once every 50 years. But you should not  
2638 attribute these things to climate change, as though it -- and

2639 particularly human-caused climate change. I implore this  
2640 committee, the Energy and Commerce Committee, to understand  
2641 the science.

2642 I would also like to address the issue raised about  
2643 fossil fuel. There are realities that this committee needs  
2644 to recognize. And the reality is that fossil fuels supply 80  
2645 percent of the world's energy today, and remain the most  
2646 reliable and convenient means of meeting the growing energy  
2647 demand of under and undeveloped countries. If we were to  
2648 eliminate all fossil fuels, that would be sentencing billions  
2649 of people in undeveloped and underdeveloped nations to  
2650 poverty, to permanent poverty. I don't think that is where  
2651 we want to go.

2652 And I think the same thing is true here. We had a  
2653 hearing in the Select Committee on the Climate Crisis. There  
2654 were three Democrat witnesses who were all climate  
2655 scientists, one of whom was a British scientist who was one  
2656 of the lead editors and lead authors of the 5th Annual Report  
2657 from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. And I  
2658 asked a simple question. I asked if the United States  
2659 completely eliminated all carbon emissions, all CO2  
2660 emissions, went to absolute zero -- which means we would all  
2661 quit breathing and quit talking, which would probably be a  
2662 good thing -- but if we went to absolute zero, would it stop  
2663 climate change?

2664           And after an embarrassingly long pause, the witnesses  
2665   looked up and down the witness table at each other. One of  
2666   them finally leaned forward and said it would not.

2667           And then I asked if the entire world completely  
2668   eliminated all CO2 emissions, and went to absolute zero,  
2669   would it stop climate change? And once again, the answer  
2670   was it would only mitigate the impact. In other words, the  
2671   answer is no.

2672           We need to stick to the science, and we need to base our  
2673   policy on the science, because this is going to impact people  
2674   in an enormously negative way, imposing massive cost  
2675   increases on the people who can least afford it, and  
2676   potentially keeping billions of people in poverty, risking  
2677   their lives because of the policies undertaken by this  
2678   committee and by this Congress.

2679           With that, Mr. Chairman, I appreciate your indulgence  
2680   and yield back.

2681           \*Mr. Burgess. Would the gentleman yield?

2682           \*Mr. Palmer. I would be happy to yield to the  
2683   gentleman.

2684           \*Mr. Burgess. And that is such an important point, that  
2685   at what cost, at what cost? Because every -- literally,  
2686   every family, globally, would be affected. We have learned  
2687   in this committee many, many years ago that, without energy,  
2688   life is cold, brutal, and short.

2689           I think we ought to be following the science. We ought  
2690 to be actually expounding upon what is available to us  
2691 technologically, and recognize the United States of America  
2692 produces some of the cleanest energy in the world. And it is  
2693 going to be produced somewhere. We shouldn't hamper our  
2694 ability to produce, and at the same time allow an area of the  
2695 world that perhaps is less sensitive about the way it  
2696 produces its energy to hold the trump card.

2697           And then, of course, there is the dangerous creep into  
2698 other industries, as well. This would affect agriculture,  
2699 other areas of manufacturing.

2700           This is a very pernicious tax that has been proposed,  
2701 and I hope this committee will reject it. And I will yield  
2702 back.

2703           \*Mr. Palmer. I yield back.

2704           \*The Chairman. Thank you. Mr. McNerney is recognized  
2705 for five minutes.

2706           \*Mr. McNerney. Well, I thank the chairman for  
2707 recognizing me, and I move to strike the last word.

2708           [No response.]

2709           \*Mr. McNerney. Well, I will start. Methane emission  
2710 has -- 80 times more potent as a greenhouse gas than carbon  
2711 dioxide during the first 20 years. This year's IPCC report  
2712 found that strong, rapid, and sustained reduction in methane  
2713 emissions will help reduce the impacts of climate change, and

2714 improve air quality, especially in the short term.

2715         Now, the fee proposed by this committee is the best  
2716 solution to the problem of methane emissions. It targets  
2717 methane emissions, not as production. It would cause reduced  
2718 methane emissions. It would cause them to be captured and  
2719 used, and should lower the cost of methane to consumers,  
2720 because there will be more methane available.

2721         It is a false claim that this bill will be levied in all  
2722 natural gas production. This bill targets leakage, so don't  
2723 tell me that the pollution fee raises costs. And the  
2724 technology already exists to detect and repair leaks from  
2725 energy infrastructure, which not only curbs pollution, but  
2726 also reduces waste. Much of this technology can be  
2727 implemented at little or no cost, and could be supported  
2728 through grants, rebates, and contracts supported by the  
2729 proceeds from this section.

2730         There is a lot of work to be done, including in my home  
2731 state of California, where the legacy fossil fuel  
2732 infrastructure continues to emit large amounts of methane  
2733 with no incentive for remediation.

2734         The proposed methane emission fee is a win-win-win. It  
2735 curbs pollution, it reduces waste, and invests in  
2736 infrastructure improvements and emissions detection and  
2737 mitigation.

2738         In response to Mr. Palmer I would say that we are



2739 already under the impact of climate change. Continuing  
2740 emissions will accelerate the change. When you are already  
2741 in a hole, stop digging, stop polluting. It is just making  
2742 things worse.

2743 I urge my colleagues to reject any changes to the fee as  
2744 proposed, and oppose this amendment. Mr. Chair, I yield  
2745 back --

2746 \*Mr. Cardenas. Will the gentleman yield? Will the  
2747 gentleman yield? This is Cardenas.

2748 \*Mr. McNerney. Yes.

2749 \*Mr. Cardenas. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just wanted  
2750 to echo what my fine colleague, Mr. McNerney, just pointed  
2751 out.

2752 I live in a district in the Los Angeles area, and  
2753 methane escaping from plants is a major, major issue. And  
2754 he, Mr. McNerney, is absolutely right. This is a win-win-  
2755 win. When it comes to local jobs, it is a win. When it  
2756 comes to protecting local communities, and also the  
2757 environment writ large, this is a win-win-win. This is  
2758 something that -- thank you, Mr. McNerney, for characterizing  
2759 the truth in this matter, rather than allowing others to say  
2760 that this is, in fact, what it is not. So this is something  
2761 that is going to be a tremendous benefit all the way around.

2762 Thank you so much. I yield back.

2763 \*The Chairman. Mr. McNerney rules the --

2764           \*Mr. McNerney. I yield back to the chair.

2765           \*The Chairman. Thank you. So next I have -- Mr.  
2766 Bucshon is recognized for five minutes.

2767           \*Mr. Bucshon. I move to strike the last word, Mr.  
2768 Chairman.

2769           \*The Chairman. The gentleman is recognized.

2770           \*Mr. Bucshon. Yes, I just have a few quick comments  
2771 about some of the things that have been said.

2772           First of all, I would ask my Democrat colleagues to stop  
2773 preaching at us like we are uninformed, or we don't know what  
2774 we are talking about. I can assure you, we are informed  
2775 about this issue, and we are not stupid. So, I mean, my  
2776 Democrat colleagues should stick to defending their own  
2777 policies, and not preach at us.

2778           And I want to ask -- answer a couple of questions of why  
2779 we support fossil fuel. Because you can't get to zero-carbon  
2780 emissions without fossil fuel, without addressing how we use  
2781 fossil fuel to produce energy. It just can't be done. And  
2782 it is not going to be done. And I want to associate myself  
2783 with Mr. Palmer's comments.

2784           And the other one about why the American -- the auto  
2785 industry is going towards electric cars, look, I love  
2786 electric cars, I hope we get there. But they are doing it  
2787 because they are not stupid. The U.S. Federal Government is  
2788 threatening to shut down their entire industry if they don't

2789 do it. So, I mean, it is -- and in addition, we keep putting  
2790 in massive tax incentives to get the American people to adopt  
2791 a technology which, right now, only about four percent of the  
2792 American people can afford, because that is the only ones  
2793 that have electric cars. Electric cars are very expensive.  
2794 Most of the people I represent can't afford them, and there  
2795 is no infrastructure.

2796         So I just wanted to answer a couple of questions that  
2797 were asked. We can't get to zero-carbon emissions without  
2798 addressing fossil fuel, it just can't be done. And the auto  
2799 industry is developing electric cars because you are  
2800 threatening to shut their industry down if they don't. They  
2801 are not dumb.

2802         So with that, Mr. Chairman, I yield back.

2803         \*The Chairman. Is there another Democrat?

2804         If not, I go to Mr. Curtis. Mr. Curtis is recognized  
2805 for five minutes.

2806         \*Mr. Curtis. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to strike  
2807 the last word.

2808         \*The Chairman. The gentleman is recognized.

2809         \*Mr. Curtis. I support the McMorris Rodgers amendment,  
2810 and I want to ask my colleagues -- it feels like sometimes  
2811 you hate fossil fuel more than you hate climate change. And  
2812 I would like to extend a challenge, and ask anybody to show  
2813 me how I am wrong.

2814           I believe using U.S. natural gas to replace Russia  
2815 natural gas and coal-burning plants in China, India, and  
2816 Russia would do more to reduce greenhouse gas emissions than  
2817 this entire bill. I will even throw in the entire Green New  
2818 Deal.

2819           I believe this natural gas tax is a bad idea, and will  
2820 have the opposite effect of what you are all intending, and I  
2821 hope you will hear me out.

2822           Taxing U.S. natural gas has the same impact as  
2823 subsidizing foreign natural gas. If foreign energy is  
2824 cheaper than U.S. energy, countries will buy their energy  
2825 instead. I will stipulate that we need to continue to reduce  
2826 our methane emissions. But the fact is the U.S. produces  
2827 natural gas with less methane emissions than any of our  
2828 foreign competitors.

2829           As an example, lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions from  
2830 Russia natural gas pipeline to Europe and China is over 40  
2831 percent higher than U.S. LNG exports. Domestically, we have  
2832 3,374 trillion cubic feet of natural gas that can meet the  
2833 world's needs for over 100 years. Who wouldn't want to  
2834 replace China's coal plants with U.S. natural gas?

2835           By increasing the cost of U.S. gas, and, therefore, the  
2836 cost to get it to developing countries, we encourage China  
2837 and Russia to export their higher emitting coal and gas  
2838 instead. By making U.S. gas more expensive, we get more

2839 foreign pollution, and the atmosphere doesn't really care  
2840 about the country of origin of greenhouse gas emissions.

2841       What we are doing today is the continuation of the  
2842 villainization of natural gas, despite the role that natural  
2843 gas has played over the last decade in helping the United  
2844 States radically reduce our greenhouse gas emissions. If we  
2845 are serious about the climate issues, we need to spend more  
2846 time talking about worldwide greenhouse gas emissions.

2847       Can we say with confidence that this methane tax does  
2848 not increase worldwide greenhouse gas emissions? I don't  
2849 think so. It might feel good to sound tough on U.S. natural  
2850 gas, but let's keep our eye on the right ball: worldwide  
2851 greenhouse gas emissions.

2852       Mr. Chairman, I yield.

2853       \*The Chairman. Thank you. And then we go to Mr. Pence,  
2854 who is recognized for five minutes.

2855       \*Mr. Pence. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to  
2856 strike the last word. I support the McMorris amendment.

2857       You know, I heard the phrase "modest methane fee."  
2858 That is how the Democrats are describing this. Now, I am an  
2859 individual that moved product for all my life, petroleum  
2860 product, and there is no such thing as a fee that isn't a  
2861 direct consumer tax. That is exactly what this is. It is a  
2862 hidden tax. You knew they were going to put it in the bill.  
2863 You knew -- they say they are not going to charge any tax on

2864 anybody that makes less than \$400,000. This fee would be tax  
2865 on everybody.

2866 And who pays the most? The lower-income and the  
2867 middle-income people, as a percentage of their income.

2868 You know, I guess we are taking the attitude that  
2869 Hillary Clinton took many years ago when she said, "What  
2870 difference does it make? A fee, a tax, what difference does  
2871 it make?'"

2872 And to that I say, come on, man, be honest with the  
2873 American public.

2874 I yield back.

2875 \*The Chairman. All right. So we are on the --

2876 \*Ms. DeGette. Mr. Chairman, I have my hand up.

2877 \*The Chairman. Who is that?

2878 \*Voice. Ms. DeGette.

2879 \*Ms. DeGette. Mr. Chairman, it is Ms. DeGette, and I  
2880 have had my hand up for some time now.

2881 \*The Chairman. Okay.

2882 \*Ms. DeGette. I move to strike --

2883 \*The Chairman. The gentlewoman is recognized for five  
2884 minutes.

2885 \*Ms. DeGette. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Mr.  
2886 Chairman, I have been sitting here very patiently, listening  
2887 to my friends across the aisle calling this provision a tax.  
2888 This provision is not a tax. Now, I am sure that they have

2889 tested this. I am sure that they think, if they keep saying  
2890 it is a tax, it will confuse the American public.

2891 But the problem is it is a fee on natural gas waste.  
2892 And here's how it works. Companies are now releasing methane  
2893 into the atmosphere. It is a worse pollutant than carbon  
2894 dioxide. It causes health risks. It causes all kinds of  
2895 problems. But equally bad, it causes a loss of millions and  
2896 millions of dollars that the energy companies could capture  
2897 if they captured the methane gas.

2898 And furthermore, they have the technology to do it. And  
2899 so, if they meet reasonable standards of waste prevention,  
2900 then they won't pay any fee at all under this provision. The  
2901 smart players in the natural gas industry, in fact, know how  
2902 to prevent waste, and they want to prevent waste, because  
2903 they can capitalize on it to make money. And so they won't  
2904 be paying a fee on the natural gas at all. Customers won't  
2905 be paying a fee on the natural gas delivered to them. The  
2906 only fee will be paid on what doesn't make it to the  
2907 consumer.

2908 I also want to point out that there are a lot of other  
2909 great provisions, as Representative Castor pointed out, that  
2910 will fund critical investments in clean air, industry  
2911 improvements, and climate resiliency.

2912 Now I would like to ask my colleagues on the other side  
2913 of the aisle, Mr. Chairman, do they oppose funding all of

2914 those activities?

2915       One last thing, which I said in my very brief opening  
2916 statement, and I will say again, if you look at the  
2917 provisions in this bill and in all of the sections, we are  
2918 not banning fossil fuels. What we are doing is we are  
2919 transitioning to a clean energy environment, which means we  
2920 are transitioning to clean fuels in a source-neutral way.  
2921 That is the way we are going to get to 80 percent by 2030 and  
2922 100 percent to -- by 2035. And I think all of our  
2923 constituents would support that.

2924       With that, Mr. Chairman, I yield back.

2925       \*The Chairman. I thank the gentlewoman.

2926       Is there anybody else that wants to speak on this -- on  
2927 the Rodgers -- Mr. Joyce is recognized for five minutes.

2928       \*Mr. Joyce. Mr. Chairman, I wish to strike the last  
2929 word.

2930       \*The Chairman. The gentleman is recognized.

2931       \*Mr. Joyce. I support the McMorris Rodgers amendment.  
2932 Mr. Chairman, this partisan tax is damaging, it is dangerous,  
2933 and it is unnecessary for a number of reasons.

2934       First and foremost, the United States has led the world  
2935 in reducing greenhouse gas emissions over the last two  
2936 decades, empowering through innovation, not suffocating with  
2937 regulation. That is the ultimate answer to cutting emissions  
2938 and strengthening the American energy industry.



2939           As a nation, we simply cannot tax our way to a cleaner  
2940   environment. That damage that this bill would do to every  
2941   American is in jobs, and it is immense. The American  
2942   Chemistry Council estimates that this harmful legislation  
2943   would cost businesses more than \$66 billion over the next 10  
2944   years. And who would end up footing that bill for these new  
2945   costs? Working-class American families, that is who,  
2946   American families who would pay increased costs for clothing,  
2947   for home appliances, for food, and, of course, for energy  
2948   prices.

2949           Worse, this tax is dangerous to the thousands of  
2950   American families that rely on the energy jobs that the  
2951   industry provides, and our nation could lose up to 90,000  
2952   jobs, nationwide. This tax would harm, and it would take  
2953   away opportunity from the very communities that I represent  
2954   in Pennsylvania. This is not the right way forward. We must  
2955   do better. Our constituents expect and deserve that.

2956           I yield the balance of my time.

2957           \*Mr. Palmer. Would the gentleman yield?

2958           \*Mr. Joyce. Yes.

2959           \*Mr. Palmer. I would just like to point out that, when  
2960   we talk about a tax, it is a tax, as I pointed out.

2961           But in regard to methane, 29 percent, the -- which is  
2962   the highest percentage of methane emissions -- comes from  
2963   enteric fermentation. In other words, from cattle. And I

2964 think we have had a discussion about the increased cost for  
2965 dairy cattle that is in this bill, a massive increase; a  
2966 massive increase for beef cattle; a massive increase for  
2967 pigs; another 10 percent from rice cultivation; other ag  
2968 sources 7 percent. So we are talking about almost half of  
2969 all the methane is coming from food sources.

2970 And to the gentlelady from Colorado, I just point out  
2971 that this is going to be a tax. I don't -- you can call it  
2972 whatever you want to, a fee. But it is going to impact the  
2973 cost of food for millions and millions of people, not only in  
2974 the United States, but worldwide.

2975 I thank the gentleman for yielding his time.

2976 \*The Chairman. Mr. Joyce, did you yield back?

2977 \*Mr. Joyce. Mr. Chair, I yield back.

2978 \*The Chairman. Thank you. Does anyone else want to  
2979 speak on the Rodgers amendment?

2980 Okay, hearing none, we will go to the vote on that.

2981 Let's see. But again, please mute yourself, so that we may  
2982 hear your response to the voice vote. Okay. No, you want a  
2983 recorded vote? Okay. A recorded vote is ordered.

2984 Those in favor of the amendment will say aye. Those  
2985 opposed to the amendment will say no. And I remind you, you  
2986 know, please say, like, you know, "Frank Pallone from New  
2987 Jersey'" before you say aye or nay.

2988 So the clerk shall now call the roll. This is the

2989     Rodgers amendment to the Tonko substitute.

2990             \*Mr. Tonko.   Mr. Chair, at this point I should remove my

2991     point of order.

2992             \*The Chairman.   The gentleman removes his point of

2993     order.   Okay, thank you.

2994             The clerk will call the roll.

2995             \*The Clerk.   Mr. Rush?

2996             [No response.]

2997             \*The Clerk.   Ms. Eshoo?

2998             \*Ms. Eshoo.   Eshoo of California votes no.

2999             \*The Clerk.   Ms. Eshoo votes no.

3000             Ms. DeGette?

3001             [No response.]

3002             \*The Clerk.   Mr. Doyle?

3003             \*Mr. Doyle.   Doyle from Pennsylvania votes no.

3004             \*The Clerk.   Mr. Doyle votes no.

3005             Ms. Schakowsky?

3006             \*Ms. Schakowsky.   Votes no.

3007             \*The Clerk.   Ms. Schakowsky votes no.

3008             Mr. Butterfield?

3009             \*Mr. Butterfield.   Butterfield of North Carolina votes

3010     no.

3011             \*The Clerk.   Mr. Butterfield votes no.

3012             Ms. Matsui?

3013             \*Ms. Matsui.   Matsui of California votes no.

3014           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Matsui votes no.  
3015           Ms. Castor?  
3016           \*Ms. Castor.   Ms. Castor of Florida votes no.  
3017           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Castor votes no.  
3018           Mr. Sarbanes?  
3019           \*Mr. Sarbanes.   Sarbanes of Maryland votes no.  
3020           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Sarbanes votes no.  
3021           Mr. McNerney?  
3022           \*Mr. McNerney.   McNerney votes no.  
3023           \*The Clerk.   Mr. McNerney votes no.  
3024           Mr. Welch?  
3025           \*Mr. Welch.   Nay.  
3026           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Welch votes no.  
3027           Mr. Tonko?  
3028           \*Mr. Tonko.   Tonko from New York votes no.  
3029           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Tonko votes no.  
3030           Ms. Clarke?  
3031           \*Ms. Clarke.   Clarke from New York votes no.  
3032           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Clarke votes no.  
3033           Mr. Schrader?  
3034           [No response.]  
3035           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Cardenas?  
3036           \*Mr. Cardenas.   Cardenas, representing California, votes  
3037   no.  
3038           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Cardenas votes no.

3039 Mr. Ruiz?

3040 \*Mr. Ruiz. Ruiz from California votes no.

3041 \*The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz votes no.

3042 Mr. Peters?

3043 \*Mr. Peters. No.

3044 \*The Clerk. Mr. Peters votes no.

3045 Mrs. Dingell?

3046 \*Mrs. Dingell. Dingell votes --

3047 [Audio malfunction.]

3048 \*Mrs. Dingell. Did you get that?

3049 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell, I couldn't hear --

3050 \*Mrs. Dingell. Dingell votes --

3051 \*The Clerk. Could you repeat your vote?

3052 \*Mrs. Dingell. Can you hear me?

3053 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell votes no.

3054 Mr. Veasey?

3055 \*Mr. Veasey. Veasey votes no.

3056 \*The Clerk. Mr. Veasey votes no.

3057 Ms. Kuster?

3058 \*Ms. Kuster. Kuster votes no.

3059 \*The Clerk. Ms. Kuster votes no.

3060 Ms. Kelly?

3061 \*Ms. Kelly. Kelly from Illinois votes no.

3062 \*The Clerk. Ms. Kelly votes no.

3063 Ms. Barragan?

3064           \*Ms. Barragan. Barragan votes no.  
3065           \*The Clerk. Ms. Barragan votes no.  
3066           Mr. McEachin?  
3067           \*Mr. McEachin. McEachin of Virginia votes no.  
3068           \*The Clerk. Mr. McEachin, I didn't see you on screen.  
3069    Could you repeat your vote?  
3070           \*Mr. McEachin. Can you see me now? McEachin of  
3071    Virginia votes no.  
3072           \*The Clerk. Mr. McEachin votes no.  
3073           Ms. Blunt Rochester?  
3074           \*Ms. Blunt Rochester. Blunt Rochester --  
3075           \*Voice. Mr. Chairman? Mr. Chairman?  
3076           \*The Chairman. Yes?  
3077           \*Voice. A point of order. I love Don McEachin, but I  
3078    have never seen him on the screen, and he is supposed to be  
3079    visible to us.  
3080           \*The Chairman. He has to be visible to the clerk.  
3081           \*Voice. He is visible on Webex.  
3082           \*The Chairman. He has to be visible to the clerk, not  
3083    to us.  
3084           \*Voice. He is on the screen.  
3085           \*Voice. Okay, I hadn't seen him up there. All right,  
3086    fair enough.  
3087           \*The Chairman. All right.  
3088           \*Voice. I witnessed him.

3089           \*The Chairman. Let's continue.

3090           \*The Clerk. Ms. Blunt Rochester?

3091           \*Ms. Blunt Rochester. Ms. Blunt Rochester of Delaware

3092 votes no.

3093           \*The Clerk. Ms. Blunt Rochester votes no.

3094 Mr. Soto?

3095           \*Mr. Soto. Soto votes no.

3096           \*The Clerk. Mr. Soto votes no.

3097 Mr. O'Halleran?

3098           \*Mr. O'Halleran. O'Halleran votes no.

3099           \*The Clerk. Mr. O'Halleran votes no.

3100 Miss Rice?

3101           \*Miss Rice. Rice votes no.

3102           \*The Clerk. Miss Rice votes no.

3103 Ms. Craig?

3104           \*Ms. Craig. Craig votes no.

3105           \*The Clerk. Ms. Craig votes no.

3106 Ms. Schrier?

3107           \*Ms. Schrier. Schrier votes no.

3108           \*The Clerk. Ms. Schrier votes no.

3109 Mrs. Trahan?

3110           \*Mrs. Trahan. Trahan from Massachusetts votes no.

3111           \*The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan votes no.

3112 Mrs. Fletcher?

3113           \*Mrs. Fletcher. Fletcher votes no.

3114           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Fletcher votes no.  
3115           Mrs. Rodgers?  
3116           \*Mrs. Rodgers.   Rodgers votes aye.  
3117           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Rodgers votes aye.  
3118           Mr. Upton?  
3119           [No response.]  
3120           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Burgess?  
3121           \*Mr. Burgess.   Burgess from Texas votes aye.  
3122           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Burgess votes aye.  
3123           Mr. Scalise?  
3124           \*Mr. Scalise.   Scalise votes aye.  
3125           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Scalise votes aye.  
3126           Mr. Latta?  
3127           \*Mr. Latta.   Latta from Ohio votes aye.  
3128           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Latta votes aye.  
3129           Mr. Guthrie?  
3130           \*Mr. Guthrie.   Guthrie votes aye.  
3131           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Guthrie votes aye.  
3132           Mr. McKinley?  
3133           \*Mr. McKinley.   -- aye.  
3134           \*The Clerk.   Mr. McKinley votes aye.  
3135           Mr. Kinzinger?  
3136           \*Mr. Kinzinger.   Kinzinger votes aye.  
3137           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Kinzinger, I didn't see you.   Could you  
3138   repeat your vote?



3139           \*Mr. Kinzinger. I am here, but I vote aye.  
3140           \*The Clerk. Mr. Kinzinger votes aye.  
3141           Mr. Griffith?  
3142           \*Mr. Griffith. Mr. Griffith votes aye.  
3143           \*The Clerk. Mr. Griffith votes aye.  
3144           Mr. Bilirakis?  
3145           \*Mr. Bilirakis. Mr. Bilirakis votes -- from Florida --  
3146 votes aye.  
3147           \*The Clerk. Mr. Bilirakis votes aye.  
3148           Mr. Johnson?  
3149           \*Mr. Johnson. Johnson votes aye.  
3150           \*The Clerk. Mr. Johnson votes aye.  
3151           Mr. Long?  
3152           [No response.]  
3153           \*The Clerk. Mr. Bucshon?  
3154           \*Mr. Long. Mr. Long votes aye.  
3155           \*The Clerk. Mr. --  
3156           \*Mr. Long. Mr. Long votes aye.  
3157           \*The Clerk. Mr. Long, I couldn't see you. Could you  
3158 repeat your vote?  
3159           \*Mr. Long. Long from Missouri votes aye.  
3160           \*Voice. Still can't see him.  
3161           \*Mr. Long. Can you see me?  
3162           \*The Clerk. Mr. Long, I think your video is off.  
3163           \*Voice. Nobody can imitate that voice.

3164           \*Mr. Long. It should be -- yes, there we are.  
3165           Mr. Long from Missouri votes aye.  
3166           \*The Clerk. Mr. Long votes aye.  
3167           Mr. Bucshon?  
3168           \*Mr. Bucshon. Mr. Bucshon from Indiana votes aye.  
3169           \*The Clerk. Mr. Bucshon votes aye.  
3170           Mr. Mullin?  
3171           \*Mr. Mullin. I vote aye.  
3172           [Pause.]  
3173           \*Mr. Mullin. Hello? Mr. Mullin from Oklahoma votes  
3174   aye, please.  
3175           \*The Clerk. Mr. Mullin votes aye.  
3176           Mr. Hudson?  
3177           \*Mr. Hudson. Hudson from North Carolina votes aye.  
3178           \*The Clerk. Mr. Hudson votes aye.  
3179           Mr. Walberg?  
3180           \*Mr. Walberg. Walberg from Michigan votes aye.  
3181           \*The Clerk. Mr. Walberg votes aye.  
3182           Mr. Carter?  
3183           \*Mr. Carter. Carter from Georgia votes aye.  
3184           \*The Clerk. Mr. Carter votes aye.  
3185           Mr. Duncan?  
3186           \*Mr. Duncan. Mr. Duncan from South Carolina votes aye.  
3187           \*The Clerk. Mr. Duncan, I didn't see you. Could you  
3188   repeat your vote?

3189           \*Mr. Duncan.   Mr. Duncan from South Carolina votes aye.  
3190           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Duncan votes aye.  
3191           Mr. Palmer?  
3192           \*Mr. Palmer.   Mr. Palmer of Alabama votes aye.  
3193           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Palmer votes aye.  
3194           Mr. Dunn?  
3195           \*Mr. Dunn.   Mr. Dunn from Florida votes aye.  
3196           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Dunn votes aye.  
3197           Mr. Curtis?  
3198           \*Mr. Curtis.   Mr. Curtis votes aye.  
3199           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Curtis votes aye.  
3200           Mrs. Lesko?  
3201           \*Mrs. Lesko.   Lesko votes aye.  
3202           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Lesko votes aye.  
3203           Mr. Pence?  
3204           \*Mr. Pence.   Pence votes aye.  
3205           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Pence votes aye.  
3206           Mr. Crenshaw?  
3207           \*Mr. Crenshaw.   Crenshaw from Texas votes aye.  
3208           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Crenshaw votes aye.  
3209           Mr. Joyce?  
3210           \*Mr. Joyce.   Joyce from Pennsylvania votes aye.  
3211           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Joyce votes aye.  
3212           Mr. Armstrong?  
3213           \*Mr. Armstrong.   Armstrong votes aye.

3214 \*The Clerk. Mr. Armstrong votes aye.  
3215 Chairman Pallone?  
3216 \*The Chairman. Mr. Pallone from New Jersey votes no.  
3217 \*Ms. DeGette. Mr. Chairman?  
3218 \*The Clerk. Mr. Pallone votes no.  
3219 \*Ms. DeGette. Mr. Chairman?  
3220 \*The Chairman. Yes.  
3221 \*Ms. DeGette. Mr. Chairman, this is DeGette.  
3222 \*Mr. Schrader. Mr. Chair, how am I recorded?  
3223 \*Ms. DeGette. How am I recorded?  
3224 \*The Chairman. Mr. Schrader, is he recorded?  
3225 \*The Clerk. Mr. Schrader is not recorded.  
3226 \*The Chairman. Mr. Schrader?  
3227 \*Mr. Schrader. Schrader votes no.  
3228 \*The Clerk. Mr. Schrader votes no.  
3229 \*Ms. DeGette. Mr. Chairman?  
3230 \*The Chairman. Ms. DeGette, how is she recorded?  
3231 \*The Clerk. Ms. DeGette is not recorded.  
3232 \*The Chairman. Ms. DeGette, you want to be recorded?  
3233 \*Ms. DeGette. DeGette votes no.  
3234 \*Mr. Rush. I vote no.  
3235 \*The Clerk. Ms. DeGette votes no.  
3236 \*Mr. Rush. Mr. Chairman?  
3237 \*The Chairman. Is there any --  
3238 \*Mr. Rush. Mr. Chairman, how --

3239           \*The Chairman. Mr. Rush?

3240           \*Mr. Rush. -- am I recorded?

3241           \*The Clerk. Mr. Rush is not recorded.

3242           \*Mr. Rush. Rush votes no.

3243           \*The Clerk. Mr. Rush votes no.

3244           \*The Chairman. Is there anyone else who wishes to be

3245 recorded who wasn't?

3246           \*Voice. Mr. Upton.

3247           \*The Chairman. Mr. Upton, is he not recorded?

3248           \*The Clerk. Mr. Upton is not recorded.

3249           \*The Chairman. Oh, he is trying to get on? Well, we

3250 could wait a minute or two here.

3251           \*Voice. He is asking if he can --

3252           \*Voice. You have to be on video.

3253           \*Voice. He has to be on video.

3254           \*Voice. Can we FaceTime?

3255           \*The Chairman. What is it? What is the problem?

3256           \*Voice. He is trying to get on the Webex.

3257           \*The Chairman. I mean, we could wait a couple of

3258 minutes.

3259           \*Voice. Does he have to be on the Webex?

3260           \*The Chairman. Does he have to be on the Webex?

3261           \*Voice. Can I FaceTime with him?

3262           \*The Chairman. Can she bring him down there with the

3263 FaceTime?

3264           \*The Chairman. I mean, if you -- what is the rules, can  
3265 you -- can he --

3266           \*Voice. He has to be on screen. If she brings him  
3267 up --

3268           \*The Chairman. If you go down there to the clerk with  
3269 him, you can do it.

3270           [Pause.]

3271           \*The Clerk. Mr. Upton?

3272           \*Mr. Upton. Hey, Upton votes yes.

3273           \*The Chairman. You look good, Fred.

3274           \*The Clerk. Mr. Upton votes aye.

3275           \*The Chairman. Anyone else?

3276           \*Voice. I think that is everyone.

3277           \*The Chairman. Oh, that is everyone? Okay. All  
3278 right, the clerk will report the tally.

3279           \*The Clerk. On that vote, Mr. Chairman, the yeas were  
3280 26 and the nays were 32.

3281           \*The Chairman. The yeas were 26, the nays were 32. All  
3282 right, so the vote is 26 ayes to 32 noes. The amendment is  
3283 not agreed to.

3284           So we are back to the Tonko substitute. Are there any  
3285 members who seek recognition to offer another amendment to  
3286 the Tonko substitute?

3287           Mr. Joyce, what is your amendment labeled?

3288           \*Mr. Joyce. My amendment should be at the desk. It is

3289 B105.

3290 \*The Chairman. The clerk has it? The clerk will  
3291 report the amendment.

3292 \*The Clerk. Amendment to Subtitle A offered by Mr.  
3293 Joyce of Pennsylvania. Amend --

3294 \*The Chairman. Without objection, the reading of the  
3295 Joyce amendment will be dispensed with.

3296 [The amendment of Mr. Joyce follows:]

3297

3298 \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

3299

3300           \*Mr. Tonko. Mr. Chair?

3301           \*The Chairman. Yes?

3302           \*Mr. Tonko. I reserve a point of order on the  
3303 amendment.

3304           \*The Chairman. Tonko reserves of point of order, and  
3305 the gentleman from Pennsylvania is recognized for five  
3306 minutes.

3307           \*Mr. Joyce. Mr. Chairman, my amendment would clarify  
3308 that the natural gas tax does not apply to agriculture,  
3309 farmers, or ranchers in the United States, or methane  
3310 emissions from their livestock.

3311           According to the American Farm Bureau, if this natural  
3312 gas tax were applied to the 2019 EPA emissions inventories  
3313 for agricultural methane emissions, it would cost American  
3314 farmers more than \$414 billion.

3315           When broken down by livestock, the impact of the natural  
3316 gas tax is clear, and the impact is devastating. The natural  
3317 gas tax would cost dairy industry \$112 billion, or more than  
3318 \$6,500 per dairy cow. This would impact my district in  
3319 Pennsylvania. The natural gas tax would cost the beef  
3320 industry more than \$198 billion, or more than \$2,600 per head  
3321 of cattle. The natural gas tax would cost the swine industry  
3322 \$39 billion, or more than \$500 per pig.

3323           Our farmers, our ranchers, are the backbone of our  
3324 economy. They should not be subject to a punitive cow tax.



3325           Plain and simple, this middle-class tax increase will  
3326 put family-run farms and small businesses in my congressional  
3327 district out of business. It will eliminate jobs. It will  
3328 weaken our economy. And it will exacerbate the drastic  
3329 increase in the grocery bills that we are seeing today.

3330           I hope my friends on the other side of the aisle will  
3331 join me in support of my amendment. With rising inflation  
3332 and COVID-related supply chain interruptions, food prices are  
3333 already going up much too quickly. Expanding the natural gas  
3334 tax to include agriculture would be devastating, especially  
3335 to lower and fixed-income households. I encourage my friends  
3336 across the aisle to join with me in protecting the dairy  
3337 farmers and the ranchers. I urge all of my colleagues to  
3338 vote yes to prohibit the cow tax.

3339           Thank you, Mr. Chair, and I yield back.

3340           \*The Chairman. Does any -- Mr. Peters is recognized for  
3341 five minutes.

3342           \*Mr. Peters. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I oppose this  
3343 amendment, because the methane fee is based on existing  
3344 reporting to EPA's Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program.  
3345 Agriculture's -- agricultural services are not covered by the  
3346 GHGRP. So we can fight about methane in other contexts, but  
3347 this amendment is unnecessary, and I urge that we oppose it.

3348           \*The Chairman. Thank you. The gentleman yields back.  
3349 Mrs. Rodgers is recognized for five minutes.

3350           \*Mrs. Rodgers. Thank you. I move to strike the last  
3351 word.

3352           \*The Chairman. The gentlewoman is recognized.

3353           \*Mrs. Rodgers. Thank you. I would like to speak in  
3354 favor of this amendment to exempt agricultural operations  
3355 from any methane tax.

3356           Washington farmers and ranchers are already struggling.  
3357 And even though we are used to the boom and bust of the  
3358 industry, it is becoming increasingly difficult to stay in  
3359 business. The COVID pandemic has been especially hard, with  
3360 commodity prices and global demand taking a big hit.

3361           On top of the pandemic, we have an increasing labor  
3362 shortage. Farmers, small businesses, and employers across  
3363 the board can't find people to work. More than 10 million  
3364 available jobs today. And now these same farmers are facing  
3365 the potential of increased cost.

3366           Farmers and ranchers have to worry that their methane  
3367 emissions will be regulated and taxed by EPA. According to  
3368 the American Farm Bureau, the natural gas tax would cost  
3369 farmers and ranchers more than \$400 billion each year. The  
3370 natural gas tax would absolutely cripple Washington State's  
3371 dairy and cattle operations.

3372           According to the Farm Bureau, EPA would charge farmers  
3373 and ranchers \$6,504 per dairy cow, per year, and 2,607 per  
3374 head of beef cattle per year. Can you imagine what that will

3375 do to the cost of milk?

3376           We have 380 dairy farms across Washington. Our farms  
3377 have over 279,000 dairy cows, and produce \$1.2 billion in  
3378 milk production. How are Washington dairy farmers supposed  
3379 to pay for more than \$6,000 per cow? They won't be able to  
3380 stay in business.

3381           This tax will cripple Washington's farmers and ranchers,  
3382 and raise prices again on American families. U.S. farmers  
3383 and ranchers contribute significantly fewer emissions than  
3384 our competitors around the world. This would be the final  
3385 nail in the coffin for many farmers, weakening our food  
3386 supply chain, and driving food and commodity prices even  
3387 higher.

3388           With inflation raging out of control, it is  
3389 unconscionable that Americans would take -- would face a new  
3390 tax that will increase the grocery bill even further. This  
3391 tax is disastrous for our economy, our farmers, and our  
3392 families. Plus, all the record spending in this legislation  
3393 is only going to hurt people further that are already feeling  
3394 the pain of this inflation crisis.

3395           I urge my colleagues to join me in voting yes on Dr.  
3396 Joyce's amendment, and I yield.

3397           \*Mr. Griffith. Mr. Chairman, would the gentlelady yield  
3398 for a question?

3399           \*Mrs. Rodgers. I would be happy to yield.

3400           \*Mr. Griffith. I would ask the gentlelady, I heard Mr.  
3401 Peters say that it doesn't apply to agriculture, anyway. But  
3402 clearly, the Farm Bureau thinks it does apply to agriculture.  
3403 Can you shed any light on that?

3404           \*Mrs. Rodgers. Well, I think the concern is that this  
3405 could apply. So, in the underlying legislation, this fee is  
3406 assessed, this tax on natural gas, on emissions, and the  
3407 concern that has been raised by the American Farm Bureau is  
3408 the potential of this tax, this fee being assessed on  
3409 agriculture. And as you -- as I said, we are talking a lot  
3410 of money, the potential of \$6,500 per dairy cow per year, and  
3411 60 -- or 2,600 per head of beef cattle.

3412           \*Mr. Griffith. And would the gentlelady yield for an  
3413 additional question?

3414           \*Mrs. Rodgers. Yes.

3415           \*Mr. Griffith. I would ask the gentlelady if what she  
3416 is saying is that, if the Democrat side says it doesn't  
3417 apply, and they have no plans of having it apply, are you not  
3418 asking the question, then, why would you object to an  
3419 amendment that doesn't do anything that you are planning --  
3420 doesn't affect anything that you are planning to do in the  
3421 future?

3422           And then wouldn't an objection to this amendment imply  
3423 that there is some plan in the future -- if not today, but in  
3424 the future -- to apply this tax to agriculture? Doesn't

3425 that -- wouldn't a no vote imply that you are getting ready  
3426 to tax the cows and the pigs, et cetera?

3427 \*Mrs. Rodgers. Well, I thank the gentleman for raising  
3428 this question, because I think it is important that we make  
3429 this clear. Because if we don't make this clear -- to your  
3430 point -- EPA could move forward with assessing this kind of a  
3431 fee in the future.

3432 So I would urge my colleagues to support this, and make  
3433 it very clear that this is not the intent. Support this  
3434 amendment so that EPA will not be able to move -- it will be  
3435 clear in the underlying law that EPA cannot move -- should  
3436 not move forward.

3437 \*Mr. Palmer. Would the gentlelady yield?

3438 \*Mrs. Rodgers. Oh, and this language did pass the  
3439 Senate with 66 votes.

3440 The gentleman, my colleague, Mr. Palmer, I will yield.

3441 \*Mr. Palmer. I thank the ranking member. If this is  
3442 not in the bill, it is not a problem. I don't understand why  
3443 any of my Democratic colleagues would have a problem with  
3444 adopting an amendment that would assure that it is not going  
3445 to be in the bill.

3446 It just seems to be a straightforward, honest approach  
3447 to this, and I yield back.

3448 \*Mrs. Rodgers. I yield back. Thank you.

3449 \*The Chairman. Is there anybody on the Democratic side?

3450 I think Mr. Latta -- well, Mr. Latta is -- he is virtual.

3451 Mr. Latta, you are recognized for five minutes.

3452 \*Mr. Latta. Well, thank you, Mr. Chairman, and, Mr.  
3453 Chairman, I move to strike the last word.

3454 \*The Chairman. The gentleman is recognized.

3455 \*Mr. Latta. I appreciate it, Mr. Chairman.

3456 Again, we have heard that the purpose of this amendment  
3457 is really simple. If a majority cares about maintaining an  
3458 affordable and accessible food supply, they will make sure  
3459 that this tax does not become a detriment to our agricultural  
3460 industry. And I do say it is an industry. I represent the  
3461 largest farm income-producing district in the State of Ohio.

3462 Our American agricultural producers ensure that we have  
3463 nutritious, safe food for our families' tables. Not only do  
3464 we produce food that -- to take care of ourselves, but we  
3465 also export that food to other countries.

3466 As prices for everyday items continue to rise, now is  
3467 not the time to impose a new tax that will make matters  
3468 worse. Natural gas is essential to the successful operations  
3469 of a farm. It is used for cultivation, grain drying,  
3470 harvesting, and the delivery of that product to market. By  
3471 imposing a tax on natural gas, we would be causing the  
3472 increase of prices for food across our nation.

3473 Again, we need to be examining the consequences of these  
3474 policies before we rush to adopt and implement them. This

3475 amendment will tap the brakes, and require an examination of  
3476 the impacts on the agricultural industry before the  
3477 implementation of this new fee.

3478 I urge my colleagues to adopt this amendment and, with  
3479 that, Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

3480 \*Mr. Joyce. Would the gentleman yield, please?

3481 \*Mr. Latta. Yes, I -- well, do have about 3:22, if the  
3482 chairman let me yield back to the gentleman.

3483 \*The Chairman. You want to yield to Mr. Joyce? That  
3484 is what he is asking you. Is that okay?

3485 \*Mr. Latta. That is fine.

3486 \*The Chairman. All right.

3487 \*Mr. Latta. That is okay.

3488 \*The Chairman. Mr. Joyce?

3489 \*Mr. Latta. I yield.

3490 \*Mr. Joyce. Thank you for yielding. This is a  
3491 relatively simple amendment. I think the message is clear in  
3492 less than 30 words. It is an affirmation to the agricultural  
3493 industry that this methane tax will not impact you, your  
3494 families, and the hard work that you do for America.

3495 I think that this is something that is clearly a  
3496 bipartisan issue. It is a clarification, and I would again  
3497 encourage every individual here today to vote for this  
3498 amendment.

3499 \*Mr. Latta. Well, thank you, Mr. Chairman, and I yield

3500 back.

3501 \*The Chairman. Thank you.

3502 Does anyone else want to talk about this amendment?

3503 \*Voice. Walberg, Walberg.

3504 \*The Chairman. Mr. Walberg is recognized for five  
3505 minutes.

3506 \*Mr. Walberg. I thank the chairman, and I thank the  
3507 gentleman for offering this amendment.

3508 I have the most diverse ag district in the State of  
3509 Michigan, and large numbers of dairy farmers, cattle growers,  
3510 and swine producers. They have had very difficult times in  
3511 recent years, especially surrounding COVID, the shutdowns and  
3512 loss of processing opportunities. It has been a difficult  
3513 time, and the frustrations as well, in competing with the  
3514 needs in China and other places in the world.

3515 I can only imagine, for instance, a large hog processing  
3516 plant in my district that processes upwards of 18,000 hogs a  
3517 day, the impact of having thousands of dollars daily just for  
3518 a methane tax assessed in one way or another for their  
3519 processing, their production.

3520 I think of my dairy farmers, who have been struggling  
3521 with the challenges with unfair competition that is going on,  
3522 and we hope that that has ended with Canada and other places.  
3523 But the impact has been staggering.

3524 And so, to add another burden on, with just the promise



3525 coming from some of my Democrat colleagues that say that this  
3526 is not a tax that is being contemplated, well, if so, again,  
3527 I would ask the question: Why do major, respected  
3528 organizations like American Farm Bureau have a concern that  
3529 that will be the case?

3530 I would think every grower of animals, livestock, every  
3531 dairy producer, every cattle -- beef producer, hog producer  
3532 would sweat bullets with a concern about the impact there  
3533 would be on their existence. Not simply the cost factor, not  
3534 simply what they would get at the market, but whether or not  
3535 they could stay in business.

3536 This is an amendment that we all ought to support, even  
3537 if it was just to make sure the chance didn't come to  
3538 fruition -- attacks like this that would put people out of  
3539 business and take livelihoods away would take place.

3540 So I would call for all of my colleagues on both sides  
3541 of the aisle --

3542 [Audio malfunction.]

3543 \*The Chairman. I thank the gentleman. Does anyone else  
3544 -- we are on the Joyce amendment.

3545 Oh, Ms. Castor is recognized for five minutes.

3546 \*Ms. Castor. Well, thank you, Mr. Chairman. This  
3547 debate has really gotten my attention, because one of the  
3548 real struggles of America's farmers right now is dealing with  
3549 the catastrophic impacts of the climate crisis.

3550           This amendment is not necessary, because it in no way  
3551 applies to the ag sector at all.

3552           But I think we cannot divorce this debate from these  
3553 impacts of hotter temperatures, floods, fires on America's  
3554 farmers, and our entire food system. And unless we use every  
3555 tool in the toolbox right now to combat the climate crisis,  
3556 we are going to be in a world of hurt in America's  
3557 agricultural sector, our farmers all across this country. It  
3558 is going to get more expensive. So that is why we are acting  
3559 now. And I hope, across the Build Back Better plan, we will  
3560 be able to help farmers deal with these catastrophic impacts.

3561           You know, it wasn't that long ago that I sat down with  
3562 farmers from across the State of Florida: citrus growers,  
3563 the dairy farmers, those in forestry, all of our specialty  
3564 crops. And what they conveyed to me is a fear, a fear of  
3565 what these huge rain events are doing to their crops, what  
3566 the extreme temperatures are doing to their livestock. They  
3567 want to be part of the solution. And we are going to make  
3568 sure that we give them the tools to contain carbon pollution  
3569 and become more resilient to the climate crisis.

3570           But let's make it clear once more. This is a methane  
3571 fee that will apply to the oil and gas industry. The reason  
3572 that this has to happen to address the methane waste is, if  
3573 you look at a 2020 analysis published by scientists at NASA  
3574 and Stanford, fossil fuel related methane emissions in the

3575 United States contributed approximately 80 percent of the  
3576 total increase in methane for North America, from 2006 to  
3577 2017. This feed will help oil and gas companies from wasting  
3578 methane.

3579 And if my Republican colleagues think that methane gas  
3580 is so important, why waste it? As Congresswoman DeGette  
3581 said earlier, we have the technology to do this, but we need  
3582 to act quickly and clearly to cut methane pollution.

3583 I just -- I -- remember, this amendment is not  
3584 necessary, and we should move on to more salient debate. I  
3585 yield back.

3586 \*The Chairman. I thank the gentlewoman. Mr. Palmer's  
3587 hand is up. The gentleman is recognized.

3588 \*Mr. Palmer. I move to strike the last word.

3589 \*The Chairman. The gentleman is recognized for five  
3590 minutes.

3591 \*Mr. Palmer. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Again, I want to  
3592 point out that I think my colleagues and I would feel a lot  
3593 more confident if this amendment were adopted.

3594 I think I pointed out earlier that almost half of all  
3595 methane emissions are ag based. And frankly, I don't have  
3596 any dairy farmers or cattlemen -- cattle farmers contacting  
3597 me about the issue of climate change. They are talking to me  
3598 about whether or not they can stay in business, and the  
3599 struggles that they are going through with the regulations,

3600 and the massive cost that is imposed on them that way, in  
3601 terms of the amount of methane that is -- emits from oil and  
3602 gas. That is about -- 20 percent of total emissions are from  
3603 oil and gas.

3604 So I think, in the spirit of just being very affirmative  
3605 that this is not going to apply to agriculture, to our  
3606 friends who are in the cattle business and the dairy  
3607 business, the Democrats should vote yes on this amendment.

3608 I hate to bring this -- keep bringing this up, but we  
3609 have just seen this Democratic Administration make a promise  
3610 that there would be no Americans left behind in Afghanistan,  
3611 and they didn't keep their word on that. So I just think it  
3612 would be very helpful and assuring to the American public,  
3613 particularly the people in the cattle and dairy business, if  
3614 my colleagues could bring themselves to vote yes on Mr.  
3615 Joyce's amendment. I think this would be very helpful in  
3616 going forward on the rest of the debate on the rest of this  
3617 bill.

3618 I yield back.

3619 \*The Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Palmer.

3620 Do we have anyone else that wants to speak on the Joyce  
3621 amendment?

3622 \*Voice. Mr. Dunn.

3623 \*The Chairman. Mr. Dunn is recognized for five minutes.

3624 \*Mr. Dunn. Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to

3625 strike the last word.

3626 \*The Chairman. The gentleman is recognized.

3627 \*Mr. Dunn. Thank you. I want to thank the gentleman  
3628 from Pennsylvania, Dr. John Joyce, my colleague and friend,  
3629 for this amendment.

3630 I appreciate the clarity and simplicity of this  
3631 amendment. This is, literally, lifesaving for American  
3632 agriculture, farmers, and ranchers, and it should be very  
3633 clear to every one of us that protecting farmers and ranchers  
3634 is imperative.

3635 It meets the minimum requirements for any Member of the  
3636 United States House to vote to protect our farmers. This is  
3637 fundamental to our life and our health, and I thank him again  
3638 for doing this, and I urge everybody to vote for this  
3639 amendment. I couldn't think of a more clear, well-thought-  
3640 out and simple answer to protect agriculture.

3641 Thank you, and I yield back.

3642 \*The Chairman. Thank you.

3643 Anyone else on the Joyce amendment?

3644 All right, no? Nobody virtually? Okay. So we are  
3645 going to proceed to a vote.

3646 Now, this is a -- this is the Joyce amendment to the  
3647 Tonko substitute.

3648 Roll call? Okay. A recorded vote is ordered. Those  
3649 in favor of the amendment will say aye. Those opposed to the

3650 Joyce amendment will say no. And the clerk shall call the  
3651 roll.

3652 \*The Clerk. Mr. Rush?

3653 [No response.]

3654 \*The Clerk. Ms. Eshoo?

3655 \*Ms. Eshoo. Eshoo of California votes no.

3656 \*The Clerk. Ms. Eshoo votes no.

3657 Ms. DeGette?

3658 \*Ms. DeGette. DeGette votes no.

3659 \*The Clerk. Ms. DeGette, could you repeat your vote?

3660 I didn't see you.

3661 \*Ms. DeGette. DeGette votes no.

3662 \*The Clerk. Ms. DeGette votes no.

3663 Mr. Doyle?

3664 \*Mr. Doyle. Doyle from Pennsylvania votes no.

3665 \*The Clerk. Mr. Doyle votes no.

3666 Ms. Schakowsky?

3667 \*Ms. Schakowsky. Schakowsky from Illinois votes no.

3668 \*The Clerk. Ms. Schakowsky votes no.

3669 Mr. Butterfield?

3670 [Audio malfunction.]

3671 \*The Clerk. Mr. Butterfield, could you repeat your  
3672 vote?

3673 \*Mr. Butterfield. Butterfield of North Carolina  
3674 votes --

3675           \*The Clerk. Mr. Butterfield, I can't hear you.

3676           \*Mr. Butterfield. Okay, Butterfield of North Carolina

3677 votes no, votes no, votes no.

3678           \*The Clerk. Mr. Butterfield votes no.

3679 Ms. Matsui?

3680           \*Ms. Matsui. Matsui of California votes no.

3681           \*The Clerk. Ms. Matsui votes no.

3682 Ms. Castor?

3683           \*Ms. Castor. Castor of Florida votes no.

3684           \*The Clerk. Ms. Castor votes no.

3685 Mr. Sarbanes?

3686           \*Mr. Sarbanes. Sarbanes votes no.

3687           \*The Clerk. Mr. Sarbanes votes no.

3688 Mr. McNerney?

3689           \*Mr. McNerney. McNerney from California votes no.

3690           \*The Clerk. Mr. McNerney votes no.

3691 Mr. Welch?

3692           \*Mr. Welch. No.

3693           \*The Clerk. Mr. Welch votes no.

3694 Mr. Tonko?

3695           \*Mr. Tonko. Tonko of New York votes no.

3696           \*The Clerk. Mr. Tonko votes no.

3697 Ms. Clarke?

3698           \*Ms. Clarke. Clarke of New York votes no.

3699           \*The Clerk. Ms. Clarke votes no.

3700 Mr. Schrader?

3701 \*Mr. Schrader. Schrader from Oregon votes yes.

3702 \*The Clerk. Mr. Schrader votes yes.

3703 Mr. Cardenas?

3704 \*Mr. Cardenas. Cardenas, representing California, votes

3705 no.

3706 \*The Clerk. Mr. Cardenas, I didn't see you. Could you

3707 repeat your vote?

3708 \*Mr. Cardenas. Okay. Can you see me now? Cardenas,

3709 representing California, votes no.

3710 \*The Clerk. Yes, Mr. Cardenas votes no.

3711 Mr. Ruiz?

3712 \*Mr. Ruiz. Ruiz from California votes no.

3713 \*The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz, could you repeat your vote? I

3714 didn't see you.

3715 \*Mr. Ruiz. Yes, Ruiz from California votes no.

3716 \*The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz votes no.

3717 Mr. Peters?

3718 \*Mr. Peters. No.

3719 \*The Clerk. Mr. Peters votes no.

3720 Mrs. Dingell?

3721 \*Mrs. Dingell. Dingell votes no.

3722 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell votes no.

3723 Mr. Veasey?

3724 \*Mr. Veasey. Veasey votes no.



3725           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Veasey votes no.  
3726           Ms. Kuster?  
3727           \*Ms. Kuster.   Kuster votes no.  
3728           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Kuster votes no.  
3729           Ms. Kelly?  
3730           \*Ms. Kelly.   Kelly from Illinois, no.  
3731           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Kelly votes no.  
3732           Ms. Barragan?  
3733           \*Ms. Barragan.   Barragan votes no.  
3734           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Barragan votes no.  
3735           Mr. McEachin?  
3736           \*Mr. McEachin.   McEachin of Virginia votes no.  
3737           \*The Clerk.   Mr. McEachin votes no.  
3738           Ms. Blunt Rochester?  
3739           \*Ms. Blunt Rochester.   Ms. Blunt Rochester of Delaware  
3740   votes no.  
3741           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Blunt Rochester votes no.  
3742           Mr. Soto?  
3743           \*Mr. Soto.   Soto votes no.  
3744           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Soto votes no.  
3745           Mr. O'Halleran?  
3746           \*Mr. O'Halleran.   O'Halleran of Arizona votes no.  
3747           \*The Clerk.   Mr. O'Halleran votes no.  
3748           Miss Rice?  
3749           \*Miss Rice.   Rice votes no.

3750           \*The Clerk. Miss Rice votes no.  
3751           Ms. Craig?  
3752           \*Ms. Craig. Craig from drought-stricken Minnesota votes  
3753 no.  
3754           \*The Clerk. Ms. Craig votes no.  
3755           Ms. Schrier?  
3756           \*Ms. Schrier. Schrier votes no.  
3757           \*The Clerk. Ms. Schrier votes no.  
3758           Mrs. Trahan?  
3759           \*Mrs. Trahan. Trahan votes no.  
3760           \*The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan votes no.  
3761           Mrs. Fletcher?  
3762           \*Mrs. Fletcher. Fletcher votes no.  
3763           \*The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher votes no.  
3764           Mrs. Rodgers?  
3765           \*Mrs. Rodgers. Mrs. Rodgers from the Evergreen State  
3766 votes aye.  
3767           \*The Clerk. Mrs. Rodgers votes aye.  
3768           Mr. Upton?  
3769           \*Mr. Upton. [Inaudible.]  
3770           \*The Clerk. Mr. Upton votes aye.  
3771           Mr. Burgess?  
3772           \*Mr. Burgess. Burgess votes aye.  
3773           \*The Clerk. Mr. Burgess votes aye.  
3774           Mr. Scalise?

3775           \*Mr. Scalise. Scalise votes aye.

3776           \*The Clerk. Mr. Scalise, could you repeat your vote?

3777    I didn't see you.

3778           \*Mr. Scalise. Scalise votes aye.

3779           \*The Clerk. I am sorry, I still didn't see you.

3780           \*Mr. Scalise. Is that coming through? It is coming

3781    through on my side. Scalise votes aye.

3782           \*Voice. There he is.

3783           \*The Clerk. Yes, Mr. Scalise votes aye.

3784    Mr. Latta?

3785           \*Mr. Latta. Latta from Ohio votes aye.

3786           \*The Clerk. Mr. Latta votes aye.

3787    Mr. Guthrie?

3788           \*Mr. Guthrie. Votes aye.

3789           \*The Clerk. Mr. Guthrie votes aye.

3790    Mr. McKinley?

3791           \*Mr. McKinley. McKinley votes aye.

3792           \*The Clerk. Mr. McKinley votes aye.

3793    Mr. Kinzinger?

3794           \*Mr. Kinzinger. Kinzinger votes aye. I am on -- if you

3795    don't --

3796           \*The Clerk. Mr. Kinzinger votes aye.

3797    Mr. Griffith?

3798           \*Mr. Griffith. Griffith votes aye.

3799           \*The Clerk. Mr. Griffith votes aye.

3800 Mr. Bilirakis?

3801 \*Mr. Bilirakis. Bilirakis from Florida votes aye.

3802 \*The Clerk. Mr. Bilirakis votes aye.

3803 Mr. Johnson?

3804 \*Mr. Johnson. Johnson votes aye.

3805 \*The Clerk. Mr. Johnson votes aye.

3806 Mr. Long?

3807 \*Mr. Long. Long from Missouri votes aye.

3808 \*The Clerk. Mr. Long votes aye.

3809 Mr. Bucshon?

3810 \*Mr. Bucshon. Bucshon from Indiana votes aye.

3811 \*The Clerk. Mr. Bucshon votes aye.

3812 Mr. Mullin?

3813 \*Mr. Mullin. Votes yes.

3814 \*The Clerk. Mr. Mullin votes aye.

3815 Mr. Hudson?

3816 \*Mr. Hudson. Hudson votes aye.

3817 \*The Clerk. Mr. Hudson votes aye.

3818 Mr. Walberg?

3819 \*Mr. Walberg. Walberg votes aye.

3820 \*The Clerk. Mr. Walberg votes aye.

3821 Mr. Carter?

3822 \*Mr. Carter. Carter from Georgia votes aye.

3823 \*The Clerk. Mr. Carter votes aye.

3824 Mr. Duncan?

3825           \*Mr. Duncan. Mr. Duncan, from the great Palmetto State,  
3826 votes aye.

3827           \*The Clerk. Mr. Duncan votes aye.

3828           Mr. Palmer?

3829           \*Mr. Palmer. On behalf of the cattlemen and cattlegwomen  
3830 and dairy farmers in my district, Mr. Palmer votes aye.

3831           \*The Clerk. Mr. Palmer votes aye.

3832           Mr. Dunn?

3833           \*Mr. Dunn. Mr. Dunn of Florida, the largest  
3834 agricultural district in Florida, votes aye.

3835           \*The Clerk. Mr. Dunn votes aye.

3836           Mr. Curtis?

3837           \*Mr. Curtis. Curtis votes aye.

3838           \*The Clerk. Mr. Curtis votes aye.

3839           Mrs. Lesko?

3840           \*Mrs. Lesko. Lesko of Arizona votes aye.

3841           \*The Clerk. Mrs. Lesko, could you repeat your vote? I  
3842 didn't see you.

3843           \*Mrs. Lesko. Sure, Lesko of Arizona votes aye.

3844           \*The Clerk. Mrs. Lesko votes aye.

3845           Mr. Pence?

3846           \*Mr. Pence. Mr. Pence from the Hoosier State votes aye.

3847           \*The Clerk. Mr. Pence votes aye.

3848           Mr. Crenshaw?

3849           \*Mr. Crenshaw. Crenshaw from the Lone Star State, since

3850 we are doing that, votes aye.

3851 \*The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw votes aye.

3852 Mr. Joyce?

3853 \*Mr. Joyce. Mr. Joyce votes aye.

3854 \*The Clerk. Mr. Joyce votes aye.

3855 Mr. Armstrong?

3856 \*Mr. Armstrong. Armstrong votes yes.

3857 \*The Clerk. Mr. Armstrong votes aye.

3858 Chairman Pallone?

3859 \*The Chairman. Pallone from New Jersey votes no.

3860 \*The Clerk. Chairman Pallone votes no.

3861 \*The Chairman. Is anyone not recorded?

3862 Only Mr. Rush is not --

3863 \*Mr. Rush. Mr. Chairman, how am I recorded?

3864 \*The Clerk. Mr. Rush is not recorded.

3865 \*The Chairman. You are not recorded. How do you want

3866 to vote?

3867 \*Mr. Rush. Rush votes no.

3868 \*The Clerk. Mr. Rush votes no.

3869 \*The Chairman. And everyone else is recorded, Madam

3870 Clerk?

3871 \*The Clerk. Yes, sir.

3872 \*The Chairman. All right. Report the tally, please.

3873 \*The Clerk. On that vote, Mr. Chairman, the yeas were

3874 27 and the nays were 31.

3875           \*The Chairman. Okay, the vote is 21 -- I am sorry. The  
3876 vote is 27 ayes to 31 noes, and the amendment is not agreed  
3877 to.

3878           So we are back on the Tonko substitute. Are there any  
3879 members who seek recognition to offer other amendments to the  
3880 Tonko substitute?

3881           Mr. Carter is recognized. Well, I mean, what is your  
3882 amendment label, Mr. Carter?

3883           \*Mr. Carter. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the  
3884 desk.

3885           \*The Chairman. Do you have a number, or there is only  
3886 one?

3887           \*Voice. I think it is B106.

3888           \*The Chairman. B106?

3889           \*The Clerk. Yes, B106.

3890           \*The Chairman. All right. The clerk will report the  
3891 amendment.

3892           \*The Clerk. Amendment to Subtitle A, offered by Mr.  
3893 Carter of Georgia. Amend section --

3894           \*The Chairman. Without objection, the reading of the  
3895 Carter amendment will be --

3896           \*Mr. Tonko. Mr. Chair?

3897           \*The Chairman. Yes?

3898           \*Mr. Tonko. I reserve a point of order on the  
3899 amendment, please.

3900           \*The Chairman. All right. Mr. Tonko reserves a point  
3901 of order on the Carter amendment, and the -- did I say,  
3902 without objection, the reading of the amendment will be  
3903 dispensed with? Okay.

3904           [The amendment of Mr. Carter follows:]

3905

3906           \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

3907



3908           \*The Chairman. And so the gentleman from Georgia is  
3909 recognized for five minutes.

3910           \*Mr. Carter. Mr. Chairman, this is an overreaching and  
3911 overarching theme to this legislative package. Without a  
3912 doubt, it is being rushed through Congress, and there are  
3913 massive repercussions for each of the policies proposed.

3914           The text of this package was only released days ago.  
3915 Yet we are sitting here today to consider approving it for  
3916 consideration before the entire House without any of the due  
3917 diligence or examination we normally give a bill a fraction  
3918 the size of this.

3919           We aren't simply naming post offices or marking up  
3920 simple resolutions today, either. As the reconciliation  
3921 instructions say, we are considering changes in laws within  
3922 our jurisdiction that increase the deficit by trillions of  
3923 dollars, and fundamentally change our government, all within  
3924 a matter of days. Never have we considered so much in such a  
3925 short time. This is reckless and irresponsible, and I hope  
3926 this is made clear to the American people.

3927           While there are any number of items my colleagues and I  
3928 would like to address in this package, my amendment would  
3929 amend section 30114 of the bill that establishes a natural  
3930 gas tax. Specifically, it would prevent all the provisions  
3931 of this subtitle from applying to the owners and operators of  
3932 natural gas facilities whose gas is necessary for critical

3933 and public health emergencies.

3934       You see, natural gas is an important feedstock for the  
3935 production of many essential products. This includes hand  
3936 sanitizer, lifesaving pharmaceuticals, antibacterial wipes,  
3937 medical gloves, disinfecting products, and much more.  
3938 Aspirin, antihistamines, antibacterial, cough syrups, and  
3939 more have a base in petrochemicals coming from natural gas.  
3940 Drugs that are naturally based use pill capsules and coatings  
3941 that are used -- that use polymers from petrochemicals. As a  
3942 pharmacist by trade, I have seen firsthand for years the  
3943 benefits of these products.

3944       By now, in a world with COVID, it is more commonplace,  
3945 if not necessary, to leave your home with PPE, like a mask or  
3946 hand sanitizer. This past year-and-a-half of the COVID-19  
3947 pandemic, it has truly opened our eyes to how important these  
3948 products are. Unfortunately, this bill will raise the cost  
3949 of all of these essential supplies, and put additional strain  
3950 on supply chains.

3951       Further, abundant natural gas has provided reliable and  
3952 affordable energy to hospitals, research facilities,  
3953 businesses, and homes, improving health outcomes. In fact,  
3954 the pharmaceutical industry relies on natural gas to keep its  
3955 operators going.

3956       No matter how you approach it, this natural gas tax will  
3957 raise the cost of inputs for nearly everything. Inflation is

3958 already a persistent issue, and a natural gas tax will only  
3959 make it worse. Despite my colleagues' insistence on  
3960 inflation only being transitory, prices continue to rise.  
3961 Gas prices are up by more than 40 percent from last year;  
3962 clothing up 4.9 percent; food, 2.4 percent. Imagine what  
3963 taxing an important input and source of energy for almost  
3964 every product we use will do.

3965         Perhaps the worst aspect of this is that it will affect  
3966 Americans making the least. This breaks President Biden's  
3967 promise to not raise taxes on Americans making less than  
3968 \$400,000. According to the American Gas Association, the tax  
3969 would add at least \$100 a year to American energy bills. Not  
3970 only will Americans face higher energy prices, but their  
3971 pharmaceuticals and medical devices will cost more.

3972         The entire section is bad policy. The stated goal of  
3973 this policy is to reduce emissions, but it will likely  
3974 reverse the progress we have already made reducing emissions.  
3975 The use of lower-emission natural gas, instead of other  
3976 fossil fuels, is largely responsible for the enormous  
3977 reduction of American emissions over the past couple of  
3978 decades. By taxing it more, we will disincentivise the  
3979 continued transition away from dirtier fuels. It will  
3980 increase global emissions by giving foreign adversaries a  
3981 competitive advantage exporting energy. This will also  
3982 jeopardize American energy security.

3983           Taxing natural gas is designed to push us to more wind  
3984   and solar energy. But just this week it was reported that  
3985   energy prices in Europe are hitting record highs, as their  
3986   increased dependence on wind power has failed to be  
3987   consistently reliable. The -- demonstrates how we must  
3988   continue to pursue all-of-the-above energy solutions,  
3989   including not just wind and solar, where it makes sense, but  
3990   also emission-free and low-emission energy approaches like  
3991   nuclear, natural gas, and carbon capture.

3992           My amendment focuses on protecting the lifesaving  
3993   medical devices, pharmaceuticals, and PPE we need during  
3994   COVID. But let me be clear: the natural gas tax will be a  
3995   much larger problem for our country.

3996           I urge support for my amendment, and I yield back.

3997           \*Mr. Tonko. [Presiding] The gentleman yields back. I  
3998   now recognize Representative DeGette for five minutes,  
3999   please.

4000           \*Ms. DeGette. I thank you for recognizing me, and, no  
4001   surprise, I rise in opposition to this amendment.

4002           I guess my friends on the other side of the aisle think,  
4003   if they say something long enough and loud enough, it will  
4004   become true. But that is just simply not the case. And  
4005   these efforts to obfuscate the debate we are having today are  
4006   simply, really, not at the level we should be having in a  
4007   discussion in this august committee.

4008           So I am going to say it again, and I am going to say it  
4009 over and over again, because I think the record needs to be  
4010 clear: This bill is not a tax on natural gas, period.

4011           What -- and so this entire amendment is a red herring,  
4012 because it talks about taxing natural gas. What this bill  
4013 does is it has a fee on methane emissions that producers will  
4014 pay if they cannot reduce their methane emissions. And, as I  
4015 said earlier, most producers want to reduce their methane  
4016 emissions, because it will be useful for them, and it will  
4017 cause them greater profits.

4018           Now, I will say that, if the Republicans care about  
4019 ensuring the availability of important supplies for the fight  
4020 against COVID-19, I know that in one of the later sections of  
4021 this bill they are going to be happy to support the supply  
4022 chain investments that we will be making. But instead, what  
4023 they talk about is natural gas.

4024           Now look, let's talk about what this section does. It  
4025 does nothing more than say to producers, "If you don't curb  
4026 your methane, you are going to have to pay a fee.'" It is a  
4027 win-win situation for the environment, and -- but also for  
4028 the producers.

4029           What this amendment does is it undermines the important  
4030 investments made by the Build Back Better Act, investments  
4031 that will improve the lives of everyday Americans by reducing  
4032 the amount of air pollution that causes harmful health

4033 effects in their communities. The amendment is misguided,  
4034 and I would urge my colleagues to oppose it.

4035 And with that, Mr. Chairman, I yield back.

4036 \*Mr. Tonko. The gentlewoman yields back. Are there  
4037 other members that seek recognition?

4038 We will recognize Representative Latta, I believe, that  
4039 has his hand raised.

4040 You are recognized, sir, for five minutes.

4041 \*Mr. Latta. Well, thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I  
4042 appreciate it, and I move to strike the last word.

4043 \*Mr. Tonko. You are recognized for five minutes.

4044 \*Mr. Latta. Well, thank you very much, and I rise in  
4045 support of this amendment. It is absolutely essential  
4046 because, according to the Department of Energy, over 6,000 --  
4047 let me repeat that: over 6,000 -- products and medical  
4048 devices are manufactured using petrochemicals derived from  
4049 oil and natural gas.

4050 And when you think about what those essential items are  
4051 -- medical devices, hearing aids, heart valves, artificial  
4052 limbs, pharmaceuticals, PPE, antiseptic, cortisones, and  
4053 more. It is absolutely essential. These are the products  
4054 Americans rely on every day to communicate with each other,  
4055 bathe, clothe, keep themselves alive. It is especially  
4056 important to have these -- affordable access to these  
4057 products, given the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

4058           Should the methane fee go into effect, prices will  
4059 undoubtedly increase for these products or, worse, they will  
4060 be unavailable for use. The majority has now come up with a  
4061 plan to address this problem -- punish the natural gas  
4062 industry. They don't realize the ripple effects that it  
4063 would have across the entire economy in our everyday lives.

4064           Because of the importance of being able to access  
4065 affordable medical devices and products, I urge my colleagues  
4066 to support and adopt this amendment.

4067           Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of my time.

4068           \*Mr. Tonko. The gentleman yields back. The chair now  
4069 recognizes Representative Johnson for five minutes, please.

4070           [Pause.]

4071           \*Mr. Tonko. The chairman is recognized -- or the member  
4072 is recognized.

4073           [Pause.]

4074           \*Mr. Bucshon. We can't hear him.

4075           \*Voice. You just started, it just picked up.

4076           \*Mr. Johnson. I am sorry?

4077           \*Voice. You just picked up, the microphone -- it  
4078 wasn't, but --

4079           \*Mr. Johnson. Okay, you want me to start over, Mr.  
4080 Chairman?

4081           Okay, thank you. Well, I thank you for allowing me to  
4082 strike the last word, Mr. Chairman.

4083           I concur with my colleagues here, that this natural gas  
4084 tax has severe unintended consequences for a wide swath of  
4085 the American economy. What the majority is doing here, in  
4086 line with radical environmentalists, is demonizing America's  
4087 oil and gas industry, claiming it is a thing of the past, and  
4088 unnecessary for the green future they are so desperate to  
4089 achieve. This couldn't be further from the truth.

4090           As my Republican colleagues have rightly stated,  
4091 petrochemical products, quite literally, enable modern life,  
4092 from PPE and medicines to fight COVID, clothing, to  
4093 electronics, and even fertilizers needed by farmers to grow  
4094 our food. Without these, we would be back in the 18th  
4095 century.

4096           I know we won't be able to get to all of our Republican  
4097 critical-use exemption amendments to this natural gas tax  
4098 today, but I did want to mention mine briefly, with its  
4099 relevance to the rest of our markup. It would exempt from  
4100 this tax any of the oil and gas and feedstock production that  
4101 would go into much of this green spending we will be debating  
4102 later.

4103           Do my Democratic colleagues even realize that the only  
4104 way electric vehicles are viable is because they are  
4105 outfitted with lightweight plastic parts?

4106           Do they realize the abundance of plastics and  
4107 petrochemical-derived materials needed to build wind, solar,



4108 and battery components?

4109 That my Democrat colleagues either don't know or are  
4110 ignoring this fact is surprising. I really cannot think of  
4111 anything that Democrats love more than masks, vaccines,  
4112 electric vehicles, and batteries. These things all have one  
4113 thing in common: they don't exist without oil and gas-  
4114 derived plastics. This is a fact.

4115 So to my Democrat colleagues, your choice is simple.  
4116 Will this feedstock come from America, and support American  
4117 jobs here? Or are we going to tax this out of existence,  
4118 too, and risk, essentially, buying this raw material from  
4119 countries overseas that don't like us very much, putting  
4120 money into their economies, while sanctioning our own?

4121 And with that, Mr. Chairman, I yield back.

4122 \*Mr. Tonko. The gentleman yields back. The other hand  
4123 we see raised, I believe, is Mr. Dunn.

4124 \*Voice. He just lowered it.

4125 \*Mr. Tonko. But I believe he just lowered it. Are  
4126 there any other members wishing to speak?

4127 Mr. Palmer, you are recognized for five minutes, please.

4128 \*Mr. Palmer. I move to strike the last word.

4129 \*Mr. Tonko. The gentleman is recognized.

4130 \*Mr. Palmer. I just want to point out a few basic  
4131 things.

4132 There was a 2019 study that showed that U.S. low-income

4133 households already spent 85 percent more on electricity and  
4134 household energy, as a percentage of their total  
4135 expenditures, than high-income households. So when you talk  
4136 about raising the price of natural gas, you are really  
4137 imposing a regressive tax on low-income people, and you are  
4138 supposed to be the party of the lower-income people. I  
4139 really think it is my party looking out for everybody, but  
4140 this is -- this doesn't really impact the wealthy people.  
4141 This impacts low-income people. It impacts -- like my  
4142 family. I grew up dirt poor, so I understand this. I have  
4143 experienced it.

4144         The International Energy Agency estimates that there is  
4145 29 million Americans who are energy poor. I pointed this out  
4146 in various other committee hearings that, really, literally,  
4147 by increasing cost of natural gas and increasing the cost of  
4148 energy, you are increasing the amount of energy injustice and  
4149 economic injustice that is inflicted upon lower-income  
4150 families throughout the country.

4151         And I would also like to point out that high-energy  
4152 costs, literally, leads to more weather-related deaths.  
4153 Lancet, which is the distinguished British Medical Journal,  
4154 has published a report that shows that 17 times more people  
4155 die from cold-related illnesses as a result of people not  
4156 being able to afford to adequately heat their homes in the  
4157 wintertime than die from heat-related issues. In other

4158 words, this -- for some people, this is, literally, life and  
4159 death.

4160         And I just think it is dangerous for us to continue down  
4161 this path, and misinterpret, misrepresent the science of  
4162 climate change in order to basically reinvent our culture,  
4163 reinvent society with a -- what is, for all intents and  
4164 purposes, a massive socialist experiment under the guise of  
4165 build back better. This is not build back better. It is  
4166 running along the same path that the 2009 stimulus package  
4167 that many of my colleagues here today voted for, made all  
4168 these promises about creating new jobs, and moving --  
4169 increasing household income. And the fact of the matter is  
4170 unemployment didn't go down, household incomes actually went  
4171 down. It resulted in more people choosing not to work. None  
4172 of this works.

4173         But what you are doing right now with these increases on  
4174 natural gas, there is another study that indicated that, as a  
4175 result of the massive decline in natural gas prices that,  
4176 literally, were saving 11,000 lives per year in the U.S.  
4177 (sic).

4178         And I would just like for -- just on this amendment,  
4179 maybe, put aside the politics, and quit thinking about your  
4180 party first, and start thinking about the people first, and  
4181 how this impacts people. I am really tired of the politics.

4182         I yield back.

4183           \*Mr. Tonko. The gentleman yields back. I believe Mr.  
4184 McNerney has his hand raised, and the gentleman is  
4185 recognized.

4186           \*Mr. McNerney. Well, I thank the chair for recognition.  
4187 Let's be clear about this. This is a pollution fine that is  
4188 going to be assessed at the wellhead at refinement and  
4189 transmission of methane leakage, of methane emission. And  
4190 basically, the Republicans either don't understand that, or  
4191 they are intentionally misleading, and they are misleading it  
4192 for political purposes, for political gain.

4193           The fees resulting from this will create jobs, and it  
4194 will create more gas.

4195           Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I yield back.

4196           \*Mr. Tonko. The gentleman yields back. I believe Mr.  
4197 Crenshaw has asked to be recognized. The gentleman is  
4198 recognized.

4199           \*Mr. Crenshaw. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I support this  
4200 amendment.

4201           Look, I am from Houston, not just the home of oil and  
4202 gas production, but Texas Medical Center. And Texas Medical  
4203 Center uses high-quality plastics that come from natural gas  
4204 feedstock that is based in the U.S. Now, we could import all  
4205 this stuff from China, but it is lesser quality plastic.

4206           And by the way, they don't care about all these  
4207 emissions standards.

4208           And by the way, you know who else doesn't care about  
4209   emission standards? All the OPEC producers. And yet, as we  
4210   attack our own oil and gas industry, and demonize our own oil  
4211   and gas industry, Joe Biden is asking OPEC to increase  
4212   production. We have got to ask ourselves, does this make any  
4213   sense whatsoever? Well, of course not.

4214           Look, if we care about global -- then we have to think  
4215   about it globally. And it turns out that it is natural gas  
4216   production in the United States that has decreased our  
4217   emissions back to 1990 levels. There is no dispute about  
4218   that. Natural gas is what provides reliable, cleaner energy.  
4219   If we were exporting it more, if we cared about methane  
4220   emissions, we would be building more pipelines, capturing it,  
4221   and exporting it to countries that burn coal. If we actually  
4222   cared about carbon emissions, that is what we would be doing.  
4223   We wouldn't be taxing our mid-size and our smaller companies  
4224   right out of business so they can't compete, and then we have  
4225   to ask OPEC to do all the production for us.

4226           Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I yield back.

4227           \*Mr. Tonko. The gentleman yields back. Are there any  
4228   other members seeking recognition?

4229           Seeing none, I believe that will conclude debate. So we  
4230   will now proceed to a vote on the amendment. The ranking  
4231   member requests the roll call be taken on the vote. So  
4232   please unmute yourself, so that we may hear your response to

4233 the voice vote.

4234 The clerk will call the roll, please.

4235 \*The Clerk. Mr. Rush?

4236 [No response.]

4237 \*The Clerk. Ms. Eshoo?

4238 \*Ms. Eshoo. Eshoo of California votes no.

4239 \*The Clerk. Ms. Eshoo votes no.

4240 Ms. DeGette?

4241 \*Ms. DeGette. DeGette votes no.

4242 \*The Clerk. Ms. DeGette votes no.

4243 Mr. Doyle?

4244 \*Mr. Doyle. Doyle votes no.

4245 \*The Clerk. Mr. Doyle votes no.

4246 Ms. Schakowsky?

4247 [No response.]

4248 \*The Clerk. Mr. Butterfield?

4249 \*Mr. Butterfield. Butterfield of North Carolina votes  
4250 no.

4251 \*The Clerk. Mr. Butterfield votes no.

4252 Ms. Matsui?

4253 \*Ms. Matsui. Matsui of California votes no.

4254 \*The Clerk. Ms. Matsui votes no.

4255 Ms. Castor?

4256 \*Ms. Castor. Castor of Florida votes no.

4257 \*The Clerk. Ms. Castor votes no.

4258 Mr. Sarbanes?

4259 \*Mr. Sarbanes. Sarbanes votes no.

4260 \*The Clerk. Mr. Sarbanes votes no.

4261 Mr. McNerney?

4262 \*Mr. McNerney. McNerney votes no.

4263 \*The Clerk. Mr. McNerney votes no.

4264 Mr. Welch?

4265 \*Mr. Welch. No.

4266 \*The Clerk. Mr. Welch votes no.

4267 Mr. Tonko?

4268 \*Mr. Tonko. Tonko of New York votes no.

4269 \*The Clerk. Mr. Tonko votes no.

4270 Ms. Clarke?

4271 \*Ms. Clarke. Ms. Clarke of New York votes no.

4272 \*The Clerk. Ms. Clarke votes no.

4273 Mr. Schrader?

4274 [No response.]

4275 \*The Clerk. Mr. Cardenas?

4276 \*Mr. Cardenas. Cardenas, representing California, votes

4277 no.

4278 \*The Clerk. Mr. Cardenas votes no.

4279 Mr. Ruiz?

4280 \*Mr. Ruiz. Ruiz from California votes no.

4281 \*The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz votes no.

4282 Mr. Peters?

4283           \*Mr. Peters.   Peters votes no.  
4284           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Peters votes no.  
4285           Mrs. Dingell?  
4286           \*Mrs. Dingell.   Dingell votes no.  
4287           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Dingell votes no.  
4288           Mr. Veasey?  
4289           \*Mr. Veasey.   Veasey votes no.  
4290           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Veasey votes no.  
4291           Ms. Kuster?  
4292           \*Ms. Kuster.   Kuster votes no.  
4293           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Kuster votes no.  
4294           Ms. Kelly?  
4295           \*Ms. Kelly.   Kelly from Illinois votes no.  
4296           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Kelly votes no.  
4297           Ms. Barragan?  
4298           \*Ms. Barragan.   Barragan votes no.  
4299           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Barragan votes no.  
4300           Mr. McEachin?  
4301           \*Mr. McEachin.   McEachin of the Old Dominion votes no.  
4302           \*The Clerk.   Mr. McEachin votes no.  
4303           Ms. Blunt Rochester?  
4304           \*Ms. Blunt Rochester.   Blunt Rochester votes no.  
4305           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Blunt Rochester votes no.  
4306           Mr. Soto?  
4307           [No response.]



4308           \*The Clerk.   Mr. O'Halleran?  
4309           \*Mr. O'Halleran.   O'Halleran votes no.  
4310           \*The Clerk.   Mr. O'Halleran votes no.  
4311           Miss Rice?  
4312           \*Miss Rice.   [Inaudible.]  
4313           \*The Clerk.   Miss Rice votes no.  
4314           Ms. Craig?  
4315           \*Ms. Craig.   Craig of Minnesota votes no.  
4316           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Craig votes no.  
4317           Ms. Schrier?  
4318           \*Ms. Schrier.   Schrier votes no.  
4319           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Schrier votes no.  
4320           Mrs. Trahan?  
4321           \*Mrs. Trahan.   Trahan votes no.  
4322           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Trahan, I didn't see you.   Could you  
4323   repeat your vote?  
4324           \*Mrs. Trahan.   Sure.   Trahan votes no.  
4325           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Trahan votes no.  
4326           Mrs. Fletcher?  
4327           \*Mrs. Fletcher.   Fletcher votes no.  
4328           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Fletcher votes no.  
4329           Mrs. Rodgers?  
4330           \*Mrs. Rodgers.   Rodgers votes aye.  
4331           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Rodgers votes aye.  
4332           Mr. Upton?

4333           \*Mr. Upton.   [Inaudible.]  
4334           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Upton votes aye.  
4335           Mr. Burgess?  
4336           \*Mr. Burgess.   Burgess of Texas votes aye.  
4337           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Burgess votes aye.  
4338           Mr. Scalise?  
4339           \*Mr. Scalise.   Scalise votes aye.  
4340           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Scalise votes aye.  
4341           Mr. Latta?  
4342           \*Mr. Latta.   Latta of Ohio votes aye.  
4343           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Latta votes aye.  
4344           Mr. Guthrie?  
4345           \*Mr. Guthrie.   Guthrie votes aye.  
4346           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Guthrie votes aye.  
4347           Mr. McKinley?  
4348           \*Mr. McKinley.   McKinley votes aye.  
4349           \*The Clerk.   Mr. McKinley votes aye.  
4350           Mr. Kinzinger?  
4351           \*Mr. Kinzinger.   Kinzinger votes aye.  
4352           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Kinzinger votes aye.  
4353           Mr. Griffith?  
4354           \*Mr. Griffith.   Aye.  
4355           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Griffith votes aye.  
4356           Mr. Bilirakis?  
4357           \*Mr. Bilirakis.   Bilirakis from Florida votes aye.

4358           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Bilirakis votes aye.  
4359           Mr. Johnson?  
4360           \*Mr. Johnson.   Johnson votes aye.  
4361           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Johnson votes aye.  
4362           Mr. Long?  
4363           \*Mr. Long.   Mr. Long from the Bicentennial State of  
4364   Missouri votes aye.  
4365           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Long votes aye.  
4366           Mr. Bucshon?  
4367           \*Mr. Bucshon.   Mr. Bucshon from Indiana votes aye.  
4368           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Bucshon, I didn't see you.   Could you  
4369   repeat your vote?  
4370           \*Mr. Bucshon.   Sure, Bucshon from Indiana votes aye.  
4371           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Bucshon votes aye.  
4372           Mr. Mullin?  
4373           \*Mr. Mullin.   Yes.  
4374           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Mullin votes aye.  
4375           Mr. Hudson?  
4376           \*Mr. Hudson.   Hudson votes aye.  
4377           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Hudson votes aye.  
4378           Mr. Walberg?  
4379           \*Mr. Walberg.   Walberg from Michigan votes aye.  
4380           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Walberg votes aye.  
4381           Mr. Carter?  
4382           \*Mr. Carter.   Carter from Georgia votes aye.

4383           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Carter votes aye.  
4384           Mr. Duncan?  
4385           \*Mr. Duncan.   Mr. Duncan votes aye.  
4386           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Duncan votes aye.  
4387           Mr. Palmer?  
4388           \*Mr. Palmer.   Palmer votes aye.  
4389           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Palmer votes aye.  
4390           Mr. Dunn?  
4391           \*Mr. Dunn.   Dunn of Florida votes aye.  
4392           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Dunn votes aye.  
4393           Mr. Curtis?  
4394           \*Mr. Curtis.   Curtis votes aye.  
4395           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Curtis votes aye.  
4396           Mrs. Lesko?  
4397           \*Mrs. Lesko.   Lesko from Arizona votes aye.  
4398           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Lesko votes aye.  
4399           Mr. Pence?  
4400           [No response.]  
4401           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Crenshaw?  
4402           \*Mr. Crenshaw.   Crenshaw votes aye.  
4403           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Crenshaw votes aye.  
4404           Mr. Joyce?  
4405           \*Mr. Joyce.   Joyce votes yes.  
4406           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Joyce votes aye.  
4407           Mr. Armstrong?

4408 \*Mr. Armstrong. Armstrong votes yes.  
4409 \*The Clerk. Mr. Armstrong votes aye.  
4410 Mr. Pallone?  
4411 \*The Chairman. Pallone from New Jersey votes no.  
4412 \*The Clerk. Mr. Pallone votes no.  
4413 \*Mr. Schrader. Mr. Chairman, how am I recorded?  
4414 \*Mr. Tonko. Mr. Schrader --  
4415 \*The Clerk. Mr. Schrader is not recorded.  
4416 \*Mr. Schrader. Mr. Schrader from Oregon votes no.  
4417 \*The Clerk. Mr. Schrader votes no.  
4418 \*Ms. Schakowsky. Schakowsky?  
4419 \*The Clerk. Schakowsky is not recorded.  
4420 \*Ms. Schakowsky. Schakowsky votes no.  
4421 \*The Clerk. Ms. Schakowsky votes no.  
4422 \*Mr. Soto. How is Mr. Soto --  
4423 \*Mr. Rush. Mr. Chairman, how am I recorded?  
4424 \*The Clerk. Mr. Soto is not recorded.  
4425 \*Mr. Soto. Soto votes no.  
4426 \*The Clerk. Mr. Soto votes no.  
4427 \*Mr. Rush. Mr. Chairman, how am I recorded?  
4428 \*The Clerk. Mr. Rush is not recorded.  
4429 \*Mr. Rush. Rush votes no.  
4430 \*The Clerk. Mr. Rush votes no.  
4431 \*Mr. Pence. Is Pence recorded, please?  
4432 \*The Clerk. Mr. Pence is not recorded.

4433           \*Mr. Pence. Pence votes aye.

4434           \*The Clerk. Mr. Pence votes aye.

4435           \*Mr. Tonko. Any -- clerk?

4436           \*The Clerk. No, that is everyone.

4437           \*Mr. Tonko. Okay, so does any member wish to change her

4438 or his vote?

4439           Seeing none, will the clerk report the tally, please?

4440           \*The Clerk. On that vote, Mr. Chairman, the yeas were

4441 26 and the nays were 32.

4442           \*Mr. Tonko. So the vote is 26 ayes to 32 noes. The

4443 amendment is not agreed to.

4444           \*Voice. It failed? You are kidding me.

4445           [Pause.]

4446           \*The Chairman. [Presiding] Okay, so we are back to the

4447 Tonko substitute. Are there any members who seek recognition

4448 to --

4449           \*Mr. Armstrong. Mr. Chairman?

4450           \*The Chairman. Mr. Armstrong has an amendment?

4451           \*Mr. Armstrong. Yes, Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment

4452 at the desk.

4453           \*The Chairman. Does the clerk have that amendment?

4454 Can you recognize it?

4455           \*The Clerk. What is the title of the amendment?

4456           \*The Chairman. NCB01, Armstrong.

4457           \*The Clerk. Armstrong\_01?

4458           \*Voice. No, no, NCB01.

4459           \*The Chairman. N, like Nancy, NCB01.

4460           [Pause.]

4461           \*The Clerk. Yes, I have got it.

4462           \*The Chairman. The clerk will report the Armstrong  
4463 amendment.

4464           \*The Clerk. Amendment to the amendment in the nature of  
4465 a substitute to Subtitle A, offered by Mr. Armstrong of North  
4466 Dakota. Strike section --

4467           \*The Chairman. And without objection, the reading of  
4468 the Armstrong amendment will be dispensed with.

4469           [The amendment of Mr. Armstrong follows:]

4470

4471           \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

4472

4473           \*Mr. Tonko. Mr. Chair, I reserve a point of order on  
4474 the amendment, please.

4475           \*The Chairman. Mr. Tonko reserves a point of order, and  
4476 the gentleman from North Dakota -- North Dakota, right -- is  
4477 recognized for five minutes.

4478           \*Mr. Armstrong. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This  
4479 amendment is pretty simple. It strikes the entire section  
4480 establishing the National Climate Bank.

4481           And first we must recognize this program for what it is.  
4482 It is a \$20 billion giveaway by the EPA to establish a  
4483 private, unaccountable national --

4484           [Audio malfunction.]

4485           \*Mr. Armstrong. The EPA will distribute the funds to  
4486 special interests that get to keep the proceeds -- outlays,  
4487 and determine the projects to finance without accountability  
4488 to any of us or to the taxpayer.

4489           The DOE loan program, with all of its challenges, at  
4490 least has accountability, and returns proceeds to the  
4491 government.

4492           The central requirement for this program, from what I  
4493 can tell with this brand new tax, is to leverage Wall  
4494 Street --

4495           [Audio malfunction.]

4496           \*Mr. Armstrong. -- state financing, decarbonize, pursue  
4497 local renewable energy and electric vehicle projects.



4498           These projects are already covered by funding throughout  
4499   this bill and other programs Congress has previously enacted.  
4500   Instead, this program provides private investors and states  
4501   money simply to de-risk their own investments. We should not  
4502   be blindly giving away \$20 billion that may simply turn into  
4503   a special interest fund for Wall Street's --

4504           [Audio malfunction.]

4505           \*Mr. Armstrong. -- onto the taxpayer.

4506           \*Voice. -- now.

4507           \*Mr. Armstrong. -- strike this provision to protect  
4508   taxpayers and avoid waste and abuse.

4509           \*Voice. I am actually not sure.

4510           \*Mr. Armstrong. We have heard from our Democratic  
4511   colleagues that the private sector is already doing this,  
4512   from auto manufacturers' ESG investment. If that is the  
4513   case, why would we create a \$20 billion Federal program so  
4514   that bureaucrats can fund their pet projects with taxpayer  
4515   money?

4516           It makes no sense to say -- consumers are already  
4517   demanding this. Businesses think this will drive investment  
4518   and profit, but we will create this \$20 billion program,  
4519   otherwise we can't get this done.

4520           I urge my -- I urge the adoption of my amendment, and I  
4521   yield back.

4522           \*The Chairman. I thank the gentleman.

4523           Somebody has their mike on. So if you are in the room,  
4524 please turn your mike off.

4525           And Mrs. Dingell is recognized for five minutes.

4526           \*Mrs. Dingell. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I rise in  
4527 opposition to this amendment, which would gut funding -- and  
4528 he admits it -- for critical investments in this legislation.  
4529 The Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund has a vital role to play in  
4530 deploying low and zero-emission technologies.

4531           This program provides funding in two ways: first, it  
4532 invests in emission reduction projects by leveraging  
4533 financing from the private sector; and second, it invests in  
4534 state and local financing institutions that can tailor their  
4535 own investments to local needs, preferences, and priorities.  
4536 This builds on the successes of similar financing entities  
4537 across the United States. With a relatively small infusion  
4538 of public investment, these entities have attracted billions  
4539 of dollars in private sector investment, created thousands of  
4540 jobs, and reduced air pollution at the state and local level.

4541           This investment will expand access to financing for low  
4542 and zero-emission projects, particularly in environmental  
4543 justice communities. All too often, these are the  
4544 communities that struggle to secure financing for projects  
4545 that would reduce the pollution, create jobs, and improve  
4546 their livelihood in the communities that they live in.

4547           I urge my colleagues to support this program and the

4548 critical investments they make in our communities, and I  
4549 oppose this amendment.

4550 \*The Chairman. The gentlewoman yielded back. Thank  
4551 you.

4552 I have Mr. Crenshaw on the virtual. Is there anyone  
4553 else in the room?

4554 Mr. Crenshaw is recognized for five minutes.

4555 \*Mr. Crenshaw. I apologize, Mr. Chairman. I think my  
4556 hand was still raised from last time. I will lower it.

4557 \*The Chairman. Are you -- okay, you are going to take  
4558 your hand down.

4559 Is there any Republican who wants to speak on this?

4560 Anyone on the other side?

4561 I guess I am going to go to a vote, then. I don't --  
4562 does Mrs. Rodgers want a vote, a recorded vote? Yes, okay.

4563 All right, so a recorded vote is ordered. Those in  
4564 favor of the amendment -- this is the Armstrong amendment --  
4565 will say aye. Those opposed to the amendment will say no.  
4566 And the clerk shall call the roll.

4567 \*The Clerk. Mr. Rush?

4568 \*Mr. Rush. Rush votes no.

4569 \*The Clerk. Mr. Rush votes no.

4570 Ms. Eshoo?

4571 \*Ms. Eshoo. Eshoo of California votes no.

4572 \*The Clerk. Ms. Eshoo votes no.

4573 Ms. DeGette?

4574 \*Ms. DeGette. DeGette votes no.

4575 \*The Clerk. Ms. DeGette votes no.

4576 Mr. Doyle?

4577 \*Mr. Doyle. Doyle votes no.

4578 \*The Clerk. Mr. Doyle, I didn't see you. Could you

4579 repeat your vote?

4580 \*Mr. Doyle. Sure, Doyle votes no.

4581 \*The Clerk. Mr. Doyle votes no.

4582 Ms. Schakowsky?

4583 \*Ms. Schakowsky. Schakowsky votes no.

4584 \*The Clerk. Ms. Schakowsky votes no.

4585 Mr. Butterfield?

4586 \*Mr. Butterfield. Butterfield of North Carolina votes

4587 no.

4588 \*The Clerk. Mr. Butterfield votes no.

4589 Ms. Matsui?

4590 \*Ms. Matsui. Matsui of California votes no.

4591 \*The Clerk. Ms. Matsui votes no.

4592 Ms. Castor?

4593 \*Ms. Castor. Castor of Florida votes no.

4594 \*The Clerk. Ms. Castor votes no.

4595 Mr. Sarbanes?

4596 \*Mr. Sarbanes. Sarbanes votes no.

4597 \*The Clerk. Mr. Sarbanes votes no.

4598 Mr. McNerney?  
4599 \*Mr. McNerney. McNerney votes no.  
4600 \*The Clerk. Mr. McNerney votes no.  
4601 Mr. Welch?  
4602 \*Mr. Welch. [Inaudible.]  
4603 \*The Clerk. Mr. Welch votes no.  
4604 Mr. Tonko?  
4605 \*Mr. Tonko. Tonko of New York votes no.  
4606 \*The Clerk. Mr. Tonko votes no.  
4607 Ms. Clarke?  
4608 \*Ms. Clarke. Clarke of New York votes no.  
4609 \*The Clerk. Ms. Clarke votes no.  
4610 Mr. Schrader?  
4611 [No response.]  
4612 \*The Clerk. Mr. Cardenas?  
4613 \*Mr. Cardenas. Cardenas, representing California, votes  
4614 no.  
4615 \*The Clerk. Mr. Cardenas votes no.  
4616 Mr. Ruiz?  
4617 \*Mr. Ruiz. Ruiz from California votes no.  
4618 \*The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz, I didn't see you. Could you  
4619 repeat your vote?  
4620 \*Mr. Ruiz. Ruiz from California votes no.  
4621 \*The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz votes no.  
4622 Mr. Peters?

4623           \*Mr. Peters. [Inaudible.]  
4624           \*The Clerk. Mr. Peters votes no.  
4625           Mrs. Dingell?  
4626           \*Mrs. Dingell. Dingell votes no.  
4627           \*The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell votes no.  
4628           Mr. Veasey?  
4629           \*Mr. Veasey. Veasey votes no.  
4630           \*The Clerk. Mr. Veasey, I didn't see you. Could you  
4631 repeat your vote?  
4632           \*Mr. Veasey. Veasey votes no.  
4633           \*The Clerk. I am sorry, I still didn't see you.  
4634           \*Mr. Veasey. Can you not see me?  
4635           \*Voice. He is there, he is right at the top of the  
4636 screen.  
4637           \*The Clerk. No, I haven't seen you, I am sorry.  
4638           \*Voice. He has got on a blue shirt, he is in a car.  
4639           \*Voice. Does that help?  
4640           \*Voice. He is really good looking, you can't miss him.  
4641           \*Mrs. Dingell. He doesn't have a shirt and tie on.  
4642 Let's give him grief.  
4643           [Laughter.]  
4644           \*Mr. Veasey. Can you still not see me?  
4645           \*The Clerk. I see you. Mr. Veasey votes no.  
4646           Ms. Kuster?  
4647           \*Ms. Kuster. Kuster votes no.

4648           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Kuster votes no.  
4649           Ms. Kelly?  
4650           \*Ms. Kelly.   Kelly votes no.  
4651           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Kelly votes no.  
4652           Ms. Barragan?  
4653           \*Ms. Barragan.   Barragan votes no.  
4654           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Barragan, I didn't see you, could you  
4655   repeat your vote?  
4656           \*Ms. Barragan.   Barragan votes no.  
4657           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Barragan votes no.  
4658           Mr. McEachin?  
4659           \*Mr. McEachin.   McEachin votes no.  
4660           \*The Clerk.   Mr. McEachin votes no.  
4661           Ms. Blunt Rochester?  
4662           \*Ms. Blunt Rochester.   Blunt Rochester votes no.  
4663           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Blunt Rochester votes no.  
4664           Mr. Soto?  
4665           \*Mr. Soto.   [Inaudible.]  
4666           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Soto votes no.  
4667           Mr. O'Halleran?  
4668           \*Mr. O'Halleran.   O'Halleran votes no.  
4669           \*The Clerk.   Mr. O'Halleran votes no.  
4670           Miss Rice?  
4671           \*Miss Rice.   [Inaudible.]  
4672           \*The Clerk.   Miss Rice votes no.

4673 Ms. Craig?

4674 \*Ms. Craig. Ms. Craig of Minnesota votes no.

4675 \*The Clerk. Ms. Craig votes no.

4676 Ms. Schrier?

4677 \*Ms. Schrier. Schrier votes no.

4678 \*The Clerk. Ms. Schrier votes no.

4679 Mrs. Trahan?

4680 \*Mrs. Trahan. Trahan votes no.

4681 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan votes no.

4682 Mrs. Fletcher?

4683 \*Mrs. Fletcher. Fletcher votes no.

4684 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher votes no.

4685 Mrs. Rodgers?

4686 [No response.]

4687 \*The Clerk. Mr. Upton?

4688 \*Mr. Upton. Mr. Upton votes aye.

4689 \*The Clerk. Mr. Upton votes aye.

4690 Mr. Burgess?

4691 \*Mr. Burgess. Burgess of Texas votes aye.

4692 \*The Clerk. Mr. Burgess votes aye.

4693 Mr. Scalise?

4694 \*Mr. Scalise. Scalise votes aye.

4695 \*The Clerk. Mr. Scalise, could you repeat your vote?

4696 I am sorry.

4697 \*Mr. Scalise. Mr. Scalise votes aye.



4698           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Scalise votes aye.  
4699           Mr. Latta?  
4700           \*Mr. Latta.   Latta from Ohio votes aye.  
4701           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Latta votes aye.  
4702           Mr. Guthrie?  
4703           \*Mr. Guthrie.   Guthrie votes aye.  
4704           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Guthrie votes aye.  
4705           Mr. McKinley?  
4706           \*Voice.   We are not demonstrating.  
4707           \*Mr. McKinley.   [Inaudible.]  
4708           \*The Clerk.   Mr. McKinley votes aye.  
4709           Mr. Kinzinger?  
4710           \*Mr. Kinzinger.   Kinzinger votes aye.  
4711           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Kinzinger votes aye.  
4712           Mr. Griffith?  
4713           \*Mr. Griffith.   Griffith votes aye.  
4714           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Griffith votes aye.  
4715           Mr. Bilirakis?  
4716           \*Mr. Bilirakis.   Bilirakis from Florida votes aye.  
4717           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Bilirakis votes aye.  
4718           Mr. Johnson?  
4719           \*Mr. Johnson.   Johnson votes aye.  
4720           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Johnson votes aye.  
4721           Mr. Long?  
4722           \*Mr. Long.   Mr. Long from the Bicentennial State of

4723 Missouri votes aye.  
4724 [Laughter.]  
4725 \*The Clerk. Mr. Long votes aye.  
4726 Mr. Bucshon?  
4727 \*Mr. Bucshon. Mr. Bucshon from Indiana votes aye.  
4728 \*The Clerk. Mr. Bucshon votes aye.  
4729 Mr. Mullin?  
4730 \*Mr. Mullin. Yes.  
4731 \*The Clerk. Mr. Mullin votes aye.  
4732 Mr. Hudson?  
4733 \*Mr. Hudson. Hudson from North Carolina votes aye.  
4734 \*The Clerk. Mr. Hudson votes aye.  
4735 Mr. Walberg?  
4736 \*Mr. Walberg. Walberg votes aye.  
4737 \*The Clerk. Mr. Walberg votes aye.  
4738 Mr. Carter?  
4739 \*Mr. Carter. Carter from Georgia votes aye.  
4740 \*The Clerk. Mr. Carter votes aye.  
4741 Mr. Duncan?  
4742 \*Mr. Duncan. Mr. Duncan of South Carolina votes aye.  
4743 \*The Clerk. Mr. Duncan, could you repeat your vote? I  
4744 can't see you.  
4745 \*Mr. Duncan. Can you see me now?  
4746 \*The Clerk. Yes. Mr. Duncan votes aye.  
4747 Mr. Palmer?

4748           \*Mr. Palmer.   Aye.  
4749           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Palmer votes aye.  
4750           Mr. Dunn?  
4751           \*Mr. Dunn.   Dunn of Florida votes aye.  
4752           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Dunn votes aye.  
4753           Mr. Curtis?  
4754           \*Mr. Curtis.   Curtis votes aye.  
4755           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Curtis votes aye.  
4756           Mrs. Lesko?  
4757           \*Mrs. Lesko.   Lesko from Arizona votes aye.  
4758           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Lesko votes aye.  
4759           Mr. Pence?  
4760           \*Mr. Pence.   Pence votes aye.  
4761           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Pence votes aye.  
4762           Mr. Crenshaw?  
4763           \*Mr. Crenshaw.   Crenshaw votes aye.  
4764           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Crenshaw votes aye.  
4765           Mr. Joyce?  
4766           \*Mr. Joyce.   [Inaudible.]  
4767           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Joyce votes aye.  
4768           Mr. Armstrong?  
4769           \*Mr. Armstrong.   Armstrong votes yes.  
4770           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Armstrong votes aye.  
4771           Mr. Pallone?  
4772           \*The Chairman.   Pallone from New Jersey votes no.

4773           \*The Clerk. Mr. Pallone votes no.

4774           \*The Chairman. Is there anyone, Madam Clerk, who is not  
4775 recorded?

4776           Oh, Mrs. Rodgers.

4777           \*Mrs. Rodgers. Thank you. Mrs. Rodgers votes aye.

4778           \*The Clerk. Mrs. Rodgers votes aye.

4779           \*The Chairman. Mr. Schrader?

4780           \*The Clerk. Mr. Schrader is not recorded.

4781           \*Mr. Schrader. Schrader from Oregon votes no.

4782           \*The Clerk. Mr. Schrader votes no.

4783           \*The Chairman. Is that everyone, Madam Clerk?

4784           \*The Clerk. Yes, sir.

4785           \*The Chairman. Okay, the clerk will report the tally.

4786           \*The Clerk. On that vote the yeas were 26, and the nays  
4787 were 32.

4788           \*The Chairman. So the vote on the Armstrong amendment  
4789 is 26 ayes to 32 noes, and the amendment is not agreed to.

4790           We are back now to the Tonko substitute. Are there any  
4791 members who seek to offer further amendments to the Tonko  
4792 substitute?

4793           \*Mr. Scalise. Mr. Chairman --

4794           \*The Chairman. Mr. Scalise?

4795           \*Mr. Scalise. -- I have an amendment at the desk. Yes,  
4796 I have an amendment at the desk titled Scalise 1.

4797           \*The Chairman. Scalise 1, do you have it, Madam Clerk?

4798 [Pause.]

4799 \*The Clerk. Yes, I have it.

4800 \*The Chairman. Okay, the clerk will report the  
4801 amendment.

4802 \*The Clerk. Amendment to Subtitle A, offered by Mr.  
4803 Scalise of Louisiana. Page 32, after line --

4804 \*The Chairman. Without objection, the reading of the  
4805 Scalise amendment will be dispensed with.

4806 [The amendment of Mr. Scalise follows:]

4807

4808 \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

4809

4810           \*The Chairman. There is no point -- is there a point of  
4811 order on this? No?

4812           \*Mr. Tonko. Mr. Chair, I reserve a point of order on  
4813 the amendment.

4814           \*The Chairman. Mr. Tonko reserves a point of order, and  
4815 the gentleman, the whip, is recognized for five minutes.

4816           \*Mr. Scalise. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and this  
4817 amendment is very straightforward. It is just to ensure  
4818 that, as this new tax would be imposed, that all hospitals in  
4819 America would be exempted.

4820           And to be clear, I don't want this tax imposed on  
4821 anybody. I supported the McMorris Rodgers amendment that  
4822 would have gotten rid of this tax all together. But the  
4823 bottom line is, you know, I know people were trying to -- if  
4824 you look at the reports on this, you have got groups like the  
4825 American Chemistry Council that say this is going to generate  
4826 over \$66 billion in taxes.

4827           And by the way, this legislation spends that money. So  
4828 if it is not a tax, and nobody is doing it, then why are you  
4829 spending the money that it is going to generate from this new  
4830 tax?

4831           The bottom line is people shouldn't have to pay it. But  
4832 if you look at what it would do to hospitals, most hospitals  
4833 run on natural gas or some other form of fossil fuels. You  
4834 know, I don't know of a hospital in America that performs

4835 surgery using renewable energy like wind or solar. I am sure  
4836 they have some in their mix. I am all for renewable sources  
4837 of energy, but they don't give you the baseload capacity you  
4838 need to make things, to save lives, which hospitals do.

4839 And of course, the irony is, if you hear a lot of people  
4840 talking about, you know, this cliché of bashing fossil fuels  
4841 as if the electric cars are going to solve all the world's  
4842 problems, I think a few of my colleagues already pointed  
4843 maybe three percent of Americans use electric cars, and I am  
4844 sure that number is going to grow. Where do you think that  
4845 energy comes from? You don't plug those cars into a tree.  
4846 They don't have solar panels on the roof those cars. Most of  
4847 them get their actual energy from fossil fuels.

4848 So don't try to mask it and say, "Hey, I am driving an  
4849 electric car, I don't believe in fossil fuels.'" You are  
4850 using fossil fuels. And so why would you want to go and  
4851 attack it?

4852 Frankly, electric, or any other form of energy that is  
4853 based on fossil fuels, we should be wanting to do more things  
4854 with natural gas. Why would you want to tax natural gas out  
4855 of America?

4856 You could call this, instead of Build Back Better, you  
4857 could call it the Build Back China Act, because you will  
4858 build more jobs in China. You will end up having to build  
4859 more things in China if you tax American natural gas.

4860 Because it is cleaner burning, you should want to do more  
4861 things with natural gas.

4862 By the way, you should want to make more things in  
4863 America, because if you pass these kind of taxes like you are  
4864 trying to do in this bill, all you are going to do is run  
4865 more manufacturing out of America, like we were seeing before  
4866 we lowered taxes overall.

4867 This doesn't even get into what is going to happen with  
4868 the corporate rate, if -- and that is not in our  
4869 jurisdiction, but as they try to raise corporate taxes, that  
4870 will also increase costs on families.

4871 You know, this magic number that President Biden used a  
4872 lot during the campaign -- and I know some of the Democrats  
4873 on this committee have used it and said, "Oh, don't worry,  
4874 nobody making less than 400,000 will pay a dime in new  
4875 taxes.'" That is a lie. If this bill passes, if we don't  
4876 get rid of this tax, everybody is going to pay more taxes.  
4877 Again, \$66 billion is the conservative estimate of how many  
4878 new taxes would be generated on utility costs. You have got  
4879 groups like American Gas Association saying every family's  
4880 household electricity rates will go up 12 percent, minimum,  
4881 and there are other estimates that are a lot higher than  
4882 that.

4883 I hate to tell you, if you are a low-income family, you  
4884 are paying 12 percent more for your electric costs because of



4885 this tax. That is a tax on you making less than 100,000,  
4886 less than \$50,000 a year. That breaks President Biden's  
4887 pledge.

4888 And by the way, without my amendment, there will be  
4889 another President Biden pledge or promise that will be  
4890 broken, because President Biden promised to lower health care  
4891 costs. Guess what? If we don't pass this amendment, health  
4892 care costs will go up in America because of this new tax on  
4893 natural gas.

4894 Again, most hospitals that are run on natural gas, they  
4895 are going to pay this increase, which means, guess what?  
4896 They are going to pass it on to families, people that go to  
4897 the hospital. People will pay more in health care costs if  
4898 we don't exempt hospitals from this tax.

4899 Like I said earlier, I would like to exempt everybody  
4900 from this tax, but, at a minimum, can we agree to not tax  
4901 hospitals more? That is what will happen if this amendment  
4902 doesn't pass.

4903 And oh, by the way, there is a jobs factor here, too.  
4904 API estimates we will lose over 90,000 more American jobs if  
4905 this tax passes. Again, China, Russia, they are exempt from  
4906 this. They are not paying this. In fact, if fossil fuels  
4907 were so bad, why just a few weeks ago did President Biden beg  
4908 OPEC and Russia to produce more fossil fuels? He did. They  
4909 rejected his plea, because he shut off American energy.

4910           We have got to stop this lunacy. We have got to stop  
4911   destroying American jobs. We have got to stop raising costs  
4912   on American families. America has been doing things cleaner  
4913   with better standards than any other country in the world.  
4914   We should want to make more things in America, not tax  
4915   Americans and make more things in foreign countries. Let's  
4916   not build back China, let's protect Americans, and let's  
4917   lower health care costs. Let's exempt hospitals from this  
4918   new tax.

4919           I hope my amendment gets adopted, and I yield back the  
4920   balance of my time.

4921           \*The Chairman. Thank you.

4922           Mr. Tonko is recognized for five minutes.

4923           \*Mr. Tonko. Thank you, Mr. Chair. I oppose this  
4924   amendment.

4925           This is another delay tactic that only serves to  
4926   undermine the critical funding in this bill. If Republicans  
4927   care about helping hospitals save money, I expect them to  
4928   fully support the public building efficiency investments that  
4929   we will be considering later today.

4930           The purpose of today's markup is quite simple. We have  
4931   to consider investments that will reduce air pollution and  
4932   protect public health in all of our districts. Members have  
4933   a choice. Would they prefer having their constituents  
4934   breathe clean air or dirty air? They can support

4935 investments like the ones under consideration today,  
4936 investments that will improve the lives of everyday Americans  
4937 by reducing the amount of air pollution in their communities,  
4938 or they can support this amendment, an amendment to delay  
4939 critical investments in clean air, and continue with business  
4940 as usual.

4941         So with all that said, I urge my colleagues to join me  
4942 in voting for clean air, and opposing this amendment.

4943         \*The Chairman. I thank the gentleman.

4944         \*Mr. Tonko. I yield back.

4945         \*The Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Tonko.

4946         Anybody on the Republican side want to speak?

4947         So we have -- Ms. Eshoo is recognized for five minutes.

4948         \*Ms. Eshoo. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I move to strike  
4949 the last word.

4950         The minority whip just made a rather impassioned case on  
4951 behalf of hospitals. Is the American Hospital Association on  
4952 your amendment?

4953         I haven't heard from one hospital in my district. I  
4954 represent Stanford University Hospital, Lucile Packard  
4955 Children's Hospital, as well as other hospitals in my  
4956 district and in the region. Another one of the largest  
4957 research institutions in our country, University of  
4958 California, San Francisco. So I don't know if any other  
4959 members have heard from their hospitals, but I would like to

4960 know if the American Hospital Association is on your  
4961 amendment, Mr. Scalise.

4962 \*Mr. Scalise. No hospital has asked me to raise utility  
4963 costs by 12 percent minimum, but --

4964 \*Ms. Eshoo. No, but are they supporting your amendment?

4965 \*Mr. Scalise. There are a lot of groups that are  
4966 supporting my amendment, but --

4967 \*Ms. Eshoo. No, I am asking just a direct question.

4968 \*Mr. Scalise. -- a lot of groups opposing this tax.

4969 \*Ms. Eshoo. Is the American Hospital Association  
4970 supporting your amendment?

4971 \*Mr. Scalise. I don't think they have taken a position,  
4972 actually, for or against it.

4973 \*Ms. Eshoo. Well, there you go. I yield back.

4974 \*The Chairman. All right. Do we have any other  
4975 Republicans?

4976 If not, we go to -- Mrs. Dingell is recognized for five  
4977 minutes.

4978 [Pause.]

4979 \*The Chairman. Did you have your hand up, Debbie?

4980 \*Mrs. Dingell. No, Mr. Chairman.

4981 \*The Chairman. Okay, all right. Is there anyone else  
4982 who wants to speak on this on either side?

4983 Mr. Burgess?

4984 \*Mr. Burgess. Mr. Chairman, I would just offer, once

4985 again, this is a very good example of why our committee  
4986 should have done the basic work on this. It would have been  
4987 great to have this discussion.

4988 What is the contribution of hospitals that have to run  
4989 their diesel generators, if they can't get the proper power  
4990 to power the facilities and keep their patients alive?

4991 This is an important concept that Whip Scalise has  
4992 brought up. I think it was one that was worthy of discussion  
4993 as an amendment. I, for one, will be voting for it, and I  
4994 don't give a rip what the American Hospital Association says.

4995 I yield back.

4996 \*The Chairman. Does anyone else want to speak on this?

4997 If not, we are going to go to a vote. You want a  
4998 recorded vote?

4999 Mrs. Rogers has asked for -- a recorded vote is ordered.  
5000 Those in favor of the Scalise amendment will say --

5001 \*Mr. Doyle. I get this --

5002 \*The Chairman. What was that?

5003 \*Voice. I think that was Mr. Doyle.

5004 \*The Chairman. Oh, that was Mr. Doyle? Okay.

5005 A recorded vote is ordered. Those in favor of the  
5006 Scalise amendment will say aye, those opposed to the Scalise  
5007 amendment will say no, and the clerk shall call the roll.

5008 \*The Clerk. Mr. Rush?

5009 [No response.]

5010           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Eshoo?  
5011           [No response.]  
5012           \*The Clerk.   Ms. DeGette?  
5013           \*Voice.   Yes, I think she is muted.  
5014           \*The Chairman.   Ms. Eshoo, you want to -- can you hear  
5015   -- can we see her now?  
5016           \*Ms. Eshoo.   Eshoo of California votes no.  
5017           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Eshoo votes no.  
5018           Ms. DeGette?  
5019           \*Ms. DeGette.   DeGette votes no.  
5020           \*The Clerk.   Ms. DeGette votes no.  
5021           Mr. Doyle?  
5022           \*Mr. Doyle.   Doyle votes no.  
5023           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Doyle votes no.  
5024           Ms. Schakowsky?  
5025           \*Ms. Schakowsky.   Schakowsky votes no.  
5026           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Schakowsky votes no.  
5027           Mr. Butterfield?  
5028           \*Mr. Butterfield.   Butterfield of North Carolina votes  
5029   no.  
5030           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Butterfield votes no.  
5031           Ms. Matsui?  
5032           \*Ms. Matsui.   Matsui of California votes no.  
5033           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Matsui votes no.  
5034           Ms. Castor?

5035           \*Ms. Castor. Castor of Florida votes no.  
5036           \*The Clerk. Ms. Castor votes no.  
5037           Mr. Sarbanes?  
5038           \*Mr. Sarbanes. Sarbanes votes no.  
5039           \*The Clerk. Mr. Sarbanes votes no.  
5040           Mr. McNerney?  
5041           \*Mr. McNerney. McNerney votes no.  
5042           \*The Clerk. Mr. McNerney, could you repeat your vote?  
5043    I didn't see you.  
5044           \*Mr. McNerney. Sure thing. McNerney votes no.  
5045           \*The Clerk. Mr. McNerney votes no.  
5046           Mr. Welch?  
5047           \*Mr. Welch. [Inaudible.]  
5048           \*The Clerk. Mr. Welch votes no.  
5049           Mr. Tonko?  
5050           [No response.]  
5051           \*The Clerk. Ms. Clarke?  
5052           \*Ms. Clarke. Ms. Clarke of New York votes no.  
5053           \*The Clerk. Ms. Clarke votes no.  
5054           Mr. Schrader?  
5055           \*Mr. Schrader. Schrader of Oregon votes no.  
5056           \*The Clerk. Mr. Schrader votes no.  
5057           Mr. Cardenas?  
5058           \*Mr. Cardenas. Cardenas, representing California, votes  
5059    no.

5060           \*The Clerk. Mr. Cardenas, could you repeat your vote?  
5061 I didn't see you.  
5062           \*Mr. Cardenas. Okay. Can you see me now? Cardenas,  
5063 representing California, votes no.  
5064           \*The Clerk. Yes, Mr. Cardenas votes no.  
5065 Mr. Ruiz?  
5066           \*Mr. Ruiz. Ruiz from California votes no.  
5067           \*The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz votes no.  
5068 Mr. Peters?  
5069           \*Mr. Peters. [Inaudible.]  
5070           \*The Clerk. Mr. Peters votes no.  
5071 Mrs. Dingell?  
5072           \*Mrs. Dingell. Dingell votes no.  
5073           \*The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell votes no.  
5074 Mr. Veasey?  
5075           \*Mr. Veasey. Veasey votes no.  
5076           \*The Clerk. Mr. Veasey votes no.  
5077 Ms. Kuster?  
5078           \*Ms. Kuster. Kuster votes no.  
5079           \*The Clerk. Ms. Kuster, could you repeat your vote? I  
5080 didn't see you.  
5081           \*Ms. Kuster. Kuster votes no.  
5082           \*The Clerk. Ms. Kuster votes no.  
5083 Ms. Kelly?  
5084           \*Ms. Kelly. Kelly votes no.



5085           \*The Clerk. Ms. Kelly, could you repeat your vote? I  
5086    didn't see you.

5087           \*Ms. Kelly. Kelly votes no.

5088           \*The Clerk. Ms. Kelly votes no.

5089           Ms. Barragan?

5090           \*Ms. Barragan. Ms. Barragan, right here, votes no.

5091           \*The Clerk. Ms. Barragan votes no.

5092           Mr. McEachin?

5093           \*Mr. McEachin. McEachin of Virginia votes no.

5094           \*The Clerk. Mr. McEachin votes no.

5095           Ms. Blunt Rochester?

5096           \*Ms. Blunt Rochester. Blunt Rochester votes no.

5097           \*The Clerk. Ms. Blunt Rochester votes no.

5098           Mr. Soto?

5099           \*Mr. Soto. Soto votes no.

5100           \*The Clerk. Mr. Soto votes no.

5101           Mr. O'Halleran?

5102           [No response.]

5103           \*The Clerk. Miss Rice?

5104           \*Mr. O'Halleran. O'Halleran votes no.

5105           \*The Clerk. Mr. O'Halleran votes no.

5106           Miss Rice?

5107           \*Miss Rice. [Inaudible.]

5108           \*The Clerk. Miss Rice votes no.

5109           Ms. Craig?

5110 \*Ms. Craig. Ms. Craig of Minnesota votes no.  
5111 \*The Clerk. Ms. Craig votes no.  
5112 Ms. Schrier?  
5113 \*Ms. Schrier. Schrier votes no.  
5114 \*The Clerk. Ms. Schrier votes no.  
5115 Mrs. Trahan?  
5116 \*Mrs. Trahan. Trahan votes no.  
5117 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan votes no.  
5118 Mrs. Fletcher?  
5119 \*Mrs. Fletcher. Fletcher votes no.  
5120 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher votes no.  
5121 Mrs. Rodgers?  
5122 \*Mrs. Rodgers. Mrs. Rodgers votes aye.  
5123 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Rodgers votes aye.  
5124 Mr. Upton?  
5125 \*Mr. Upton. Mr. Upton votes aye.  
5126 \*The Clerk. Mr. Upton votes aye.  
5127 Mr. Burgess?  
5128 \*Mr. Burgess. Burgess of Texas votes aye.  
5129 \*The Clerk. Mr. Burgess votes aye.  
5130 Mr. Scalise?  
5131 \*Mr. Scalise. Scalise votes aye.  
5132 \*The Clerk. Mr. Scalise votes aye.  
5133 Mr. Latta?  
5134 \*Mr. Latta. Latta from Ohio votes aye.

5135           \*The Clerk. Mr. Latta votes aye.  
5136           Mr. Guthrie?  
5137           \*Mr. Guthrie. Guthrie votes aye.  
5138           \*The Clerk. Mr. Guthrie votes aye.  
5139           Mr. McKinley?  
5140           \*Mr. McKinley. McKinley votes aye.  
5141           \*The Clerk. Mr. McKinley votes aye.  
5142           Mr. Kinzinger?  
5143           \*Mr. Kinzinger. Kinzinger votes aye. I am on camera.  
5144           \*The Clerk. Mr. Kinzinger votes aye.  
5145           Mr. Griffith?  
5146           \*Mr. Griffith. Griffith votes aye.  
5147           \*The Clerk. Mr. Griffith votes aye.  
5148           Mr. Bilirakis?  
5149           \*Mr. Bilirakis. Aye.  
5150           \*The Clerk. Mr. Bilirakis votes aye.  
5151           Mr. Johnson?  
5152           \*Mr. Johnson. Johnson votes aye.  
5153           \*The Clerk. Mr. Johnson votes aye.  
5154           Mr. Long?  
5155           \*Mr. Long. From Dunklin County in the great State of  
5156   Missouri, Mr. Long votes aye.  
5157           \*The Clerk. Mr. Long votes aye.  
5158           Mr. Bucshon?  
5159           \*Mr. Bucshon. Mr. Bucshon from Indiana votes aye.

5160           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Bucshon votes aye.  
5161           Mr. Mullin?  
5162           \*Mr. Mullin.   Votes aye.  
5163           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Mullin votes aye.  
5164           Mr. Hudson?  
5165           \*Mr. Hudson.   [Inaudible.]  
5166           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Hudson votes aye.  
5167           Mr. Walberg?  
5168           \*Mr. Walberg.   Walberg votes aye.  
5169           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Walberg votes aye.  
5170           Mr. Carter?  
5171           \*Mr. Carter.   Carter from Georgia votes aye.  
5172           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Carter votes aye.  
5173           Mr. Duncan?  
5174           \*Mr. Duncan.   Mr. Duncan votes aye.  
5175           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Duncan, could you repeat your vote?   I  
5176   couldn't see you.  
5177           \*Mr. Duncan.   Mr. Duncan votes aye.  
5178           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Duncan votes aye.  
5179           Mr. Palmer?  
5180           \*Mr. Palmer.   [Inaudible.]  
5181           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Palmer votes aye.  
5182           Mr. Dunn?  
5183           \*Mr. Dunn.   Mr. Dunn from Florida votes aye.  
5184           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Dunn votes aye.

5185 Mr. Curtis?

5186 \*Mr. Curtis. Curtis votes aye.

5187 \*The Clerk. Mr. Curtis votes aye.

5188 Mrs. Lesko?

5189 \*Mrs. Lesko. Lesko from Arizona votes aye.

5190 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Lesko votes aye.

5191 Mr. Pence?

5192 \*Mr. Pence. Pence votes aye.

5193 \*The Clerk. Mr. Pence votes aye.

5194 Mr. Crenshaw?

5195 \*Mr. Crenshaw. Crenshaw votes aye.

5196 \*The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw votes aye.

5197 Mr. Joyce?

5198 \*Mr. Joyce. [Inaudible.]

5199 \*The Clerk. Mr. Joyce votes aye.

5200 Mr. Armstrong?

5201 \*Mr. Armstrong. Armstrong votes yes.

5202 \*The Clerk. Mr. Armstrong votes aye.

5203 Mr. Pallone?

5204 \*The Chairman. Pallone from New Jersey votes no.

5205 \*The Clerk. Mr. Pallone votes no.

5206 \*The Chairman. And do we have anyone who is not

5207 recorded?

5208 \*Mr. Rush. Mr. Chairman, how am I --

5209 \*The Chairman. Mr. Rush is not recorded.

5210           How do you vote?

5211           \*Mr. Rush.   Rush votes no.

5212           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Rush votes no.

5213           \*Mr. Tonko.   Mr. Chair, it is Mr. Tonko.   How am I  
5214 recorded?

5215           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Tonko is not recorded.

5216           \*Mr. Tonko.   Tonko of New York votes no.

5217           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Tonko votes no.

5218           \*The Chairman.   Is there anyone else, Madam Clerk, who  
5219 is not recorded?

5220           \*The Clerk.   No, sir.

5221           \*The Chairman.   All right.   Then the clerk will report  
5222 the tally.

5223           \*The Clerk.   On that vote the yeas were 26, and the nays  
5224 were 32.

5225           \*The Chairman.   Thirty-two, and this is the Scalise  
5226 amendment, so the vote is twenty-six ayes to thirty-two noes.  
5227 The Scalise amendment is not agreed to.

5228           Are there further amendments to the Tonko substitute?

5229           \*Mr. Hudson.   Mr. Chairman?

5230           \*The Chairman.   Mr. Guthrie?   Oh, Mr. Hudson, okay.

5231           \*Mr. Hudson.   Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the  
5232 desk.

5233           \*The Chairman.   Does the clerk have that one, Hudson?

5234           \*The Clerk.   What is the title?

5235           \*Mr. Guthrie. Guthrie 01.

5236           \*The Chairman. Oh, it is Guthrie 01 from Mr. Hudson.

5237           \*Voice. We are not going to reserve a point of order --

5238           \*The Clerk. Yes, I have it.

5239           \*The Chairman. You have it? The clerk will report the  
5240 amendment.

5241           \*The Clerk. Amendment to Subtitle A, offered by Mr.  
5242 Guthrie of Kentucky. Page 32, after line --

5243           \*The Chairman. And without objection, the reading of  
5244 the Guthrie amendment will be dispensed with.

5245           [The amendment of Mr. Guthrie follows:]

5246

5247           \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

5248

5249           \*The Chairman. And the gentleman -- Mr. Hudson is  
5250 recognized for five minutes.

5251           \*Mr. Hudson. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

5252           As Fort Bragg's congressman, I have seen firsthand how  
5253 vulnerabilities and interdependent electrical power grids and  
5254 natural gas pipelines that support our installations have the  
5255 potential to jeopardize our army readiness. From Hurricane  
5256 Florence, which hit North Carolina in 2018, to the Colonial  
5257 Pipeline cyber attack that began this year, ensuring  
5258 installations' energy resilience is a vital component to  
5259 maintaining critical missions.

5260           My amendment will prohibit the EPA administrator  
5261 imposing or collecting a fee from an owner or operator of a  
5262 facility that is required to sustain critical missions on an  
5263 air military installation.

5264           The fact is, installations like Fort Bragg in my  
5265 district, and Fort Knox in my colleague Brett Guthrie's  
5266 district, must always be prepared. When the President dials  
5267 911, the phone rings at Fort Bragg. This capability has been  
5268 seen as recently as August, when the 82nd Airborne Division  
5269 paratroopers, who were part of the global response force,  
5270 were mobilized for deployment to Afghanistan within 18 hours  
5271 to help with the evacuation of U.S. personnel and Afghan  
5272 allies that were left behind.

5273           The bottom line, this proposal does not quantify the



5274 effect this new tax would have on actually reducing methane  
5275 emissions, including stifling investments in leak monitoring  
5276 technology.

5277 I would like to see this committee do more to understand  
5278 the potential national security implications of this  
5279 proposal. Frankly, if we had had hearings in the  
5280 subcommittee and the committee level, this is one of the  
5281 issues we could have hashed out. Unfortunately, Mr.  
5282 Chairman, the -- we have moved so quickly into this markup,  
5283 we haven't even had hearings. We haven't had a chance to  
5284 discuss issues like this.

5285 You know, I can remember when you were the ranking  
5286 member. I had a little ceiling fans bill. Everybody agreed  
5287 it was a good bill. There were two regulations coming into  
5288 effect in the same year that affected two different  
5289 components of a ceiling fan. My bill said let them come out  
5290 on the same date. It was important to the industry.  
5291 Critical stakeholders all agreed. The Senate, where most  
5292 good ideas go to die, actually passed this by UC. Yet you,  
5293 sir, as ranking member, insisted we have a subcommittee  
5294 hearing. And so we did that, and we delayed passing that  
5295 bill.

5296 In this case, we have a bill that, literally, is the  
5297 most expensive piece of legislation in the history of the  
5298 United States. This bill spends more money than the combined

5299 GDP of Mexico and Canada, more than both countries spend  
5300 combined.

5301 I think we should have had a hearing. I think we --  
5302 there are some really important implications like this  
5303 national security implication.

5304 So I would ask my colleagues, please support this  
5305 amendment, so that we can protect these important  
5306 installations.

5307 I yield back.

5308 \*Mr. Guthrie. Would the gentleman yield?

5309 \*Mr. Hudson. I would be happy to yield to Mr. Guthrie.

5310 \*Mr. Guthrie. Thank you, Mr. -- thank you for yielding,  
5311 I thank my friend from North Carolina for yielding.

5312 And thank you, Mr. Chairman. You know, you would think  
5313 that you wouldn't have to deal with this, with the military  
5314 installation. But the amendment says the administrator shall  
5315 impose and collect a fee from the owner or operator for each  
5316 applicable facility, as required, to report methane  
5317 emissions. And Fort Knox is required to report methane  
5318 emissions.

5319 And when Fort Knox is going energy independent, they  
5320 could go off the grid and take care of themselves because of  
5321 the geography, the natural geography or -- in Kentucky,  
5322 geology in Kentucky, allows them to have their own wells. We  
5323 actually had to negotiate -- had Secretary Zinke and

5324 Secretary Esper negotiating whether or not Fort Knox would  
5325 have to pay the Bureau of Land Management fees to be able to  
5326 go energy independent. So this is something real, and so it  
5327 not -- just can't be dismissed.

5328         We have evolving threats, threats to our homeland. We  
5329 have threats of the Colonial Pipeline attack. We had an ice  
5330 storm in Kentucky, where Fort Knox was off the grid, because  
5331 our grid went off during an ice storm. That is why Fort Knox  
5332 decided they had to pursue being energy independent, so that  
5333 they could stay on the grid, even when we have a natural  
5334 disaster in our area.

5335         They are a leader in this effort. They get their energy  
5336 from a variety of sources of geothermal and solar. As -- but  
5337 the -- mostly natural gas production on post, because of our  
5338 geology. They have 26 gas wells. And Fort Knox has  
5339 conducted exercises because of their energy resilience.  
5340 Within 10 to 15 minutes, they can be on -- completely on with  
5341 -- on their own, and off the local grid.

5342         This amendment would simply -- would exempt military  
5343 installations like Fort Knox from the methane fee. And by  
5344 exempting military installations and their energy resilience  
5345 programs, this amendment will help ensure the U.S. military  
5346 continues to have reliable access to energy, even during  
5347 emergency situations.

5348         And so I just want to stress we literally had to

5349 negotiate with Secretary Zinke and Esper, so the Department  
5350 of Defense didn't have to pay the Department of the Bureau of  
5351 Land Management a fee to use the gas that is in their -- was  
5352 on their post.

5353         So I will yield back to my friend from North Carolina.

5354         \*Mr. Hudson. Mr. Chairman, I yield back.

5355         \*The Chairman. Thank you. I don't know what is going  
5356 on with the clock, we will try to fix it.

5357         I recognize Mr. Peters for five minutes.

5358         \*Mr. Peters. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will be brief,  
5359 so you don't need that clock.

5360         I do oppose this amendment. The carve-out is not  
5361 necessary. If a military installation, which, by the way,  
5362 the military installations have been intrepid leaders in  
5363 energy innovation and reducing greenhouse gases. But if they  
5364 are using natural gas, I would expect they don't want to pay  
5365 suppliers for gas that is wasted or leaked. And that is what  
5366 this methane fee applies to.

5367         The fee is simply telling owners and operators to pay  
5368 for their excess methane pollution, which comes from natural  
5369 gas that never makes its way to consumers. The amendment  
5370 would do nothing more than undermine the important  
5371 investments made by this bill, investments that will improve  
5372 the lives of everyday Americans by reducing the amount of air  
5373 pollution in their communities.

5374 I urge my colleagues to join me in voting for clean air,  
5375 and opposing this amendment.

5376 I yield back.

5377 \*The Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Peters.

5378 Does anyone else want to speak on -- Mr. Carter, you are  
5379 recognized for five minutes.

5380 \*Mr. Carter. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last  
5381 word.

5382 \*The Chairman. The gentleman is recognized.

5383 \*Mr. Carter. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of the  
5384 amendment, because nothing is more important than ensuring  
5385 our national security.

5386 The number-one responsibility of our Federal Government  
5387 is to protect our homeland. Plain and simple, we cannot  
5388 jeopardize the safety and security of Americans in the name  
5389 of climate goals. Transitioning away from the reliable  
5390 energy of natural gas, as this bill is blatantly trying to  
5391 do, would put Americans at risk.

5392 As my colleagues have already pointed out, wind and  
5393 solar energy does not provide the certainty, reliability that  
5394 is absolutely necessary for our military to carry out  
5395 missions across the globe.

5396 My district along Georgia's coast hosts every branch of  
5397 the military. The submarines at Kings Bay Naval Base, home  
5398 to an important leg of our nuclear triad, can't afford to

5399 question the reliability of their energy sources. Fort  
5400 Stewart, one of the largest army bases in the country, not  
5401 only provides a quick strike ability to defend our country  
5402 from threats across the globe, but is also home to thousands  
5403 of families. They cannot afford to worry about where their  
5404 electricity is coming from.

5405 As Representative Scalise pointed out, as well, Russia  
5406 and China do not have to abide by these kind of limitations.

5407 I urge my colleagues to not subjugate our military to  
5408 these logistical questions, when much greater challenges face  
5409 our country, and support this amendment.

5410 And I yield back.

5411 \*The Chairman. Do we have anyone else that wants to  
5412 speak?

5413 I don't know -- Mr. Tonko, is that for this bill, or  
5414 that is left over?

5415 Anyone else on either side?

5416 All right, then we will go to a vote. Tonko was left  
5417 over, right?

5418 Mr. Tonko, did you want to speak on this?

5419 Okay, Mrs. Rodgers has asked for the yeas and nays, a  
5420 recorded vote is ordered on the -- this is the Guthrie  
5421 amendment, as introduced by Mr. Hudson. Those in favor of  
5422 the Guthrie amendment will say aye; those opposed to the  
5423 amendment will say no. And the clerk shall call the roll.

5424           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Rush?  
5425           \*Mr. Rush.   Rush votes no.  
5426           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Rush votes no.  
5427           Ms. Eshoo?  
5428           \*Ms. Eshoo.   Eshoo of California votes no.  
5429           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Eshoo votes no.  
5430           Ms. DeGette?  
5431           \*Ms. DeGette.   DeGette votes no.  
5432           \*The Clerk.   Ms. DeGette votes no.  
5433           Mr. Doyle?  
5434           \*Mr. Doyle.   Doyle votes no.  
5435           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Doyle votes no.  
5436           Ms. Schakowsky?  
5437           \*Ms. Schakowsky.   Schakowsky votes no.  
5438           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Schakowsky votes no.  
5439           Mr. Butterfield?  
5440           \*Mr. Butterfield.   Butterfield of North Carolina votes  
5441   no.  
5442           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Butterfield votes no.  
5443           Ms. Matsui?  
5444           \*Ms. Matsui.   Matsui of California votes no.  
5445           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Matsui votes no.  
5446           Ms. Castor?  
5447           \*Ms. Castor.   Castor of Florida votes no.  
5448           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Castor votes no.

5449 Mr. Sarbanes?  
5450 [No response.]  
5451 \*The Clerk. Mr. McNerney?  
5452 \*Mr. McNerney. McNerney from California votes no.  
5453 \*The Clerk. Mr. McNerney votes no.  
5454 Mr. Welch?  
5455 \*Mr. Welch. Mr. Welch of Vermont votes no.  
5456 \*The Clerk. Mr. Welch votes no.  
5457 Mr. Tonko?  
5458 [No response.]  
5459 \*The Clerk. Ms. Clarke?  
5460 \*Ms. Clarke. Ms. Clarke of New York votes no.  
5461 \*The Clerk. Ms. Clarke votes no.  
5462 Mr. Schrader?  
5463 [No response.]  
5464 \*The Clerk. Mr. Cardenas?  
5465 \*Mr. Cardenas. I hope you can see me. Cardenas,  
5466 representing California, votes yes.  
5467 \*The Clerk. Mr. Cardenas votes yes.  
5468 Mr. Ruiz?  
5469 [No response.]  
5470 \*The Clerk. Mr. Peters?  
5471 \*Mr. Peters. [Inaudible.]  
5472 \*The Clerk. Mr. Peters votes no.  
5473 Mrs. Dingell?



5474           \*Mrs. Dingell. Dingell votes -- can you come back to me  
5475 in a minute, please?

5476           \*The Chairman. Let me just repeat again, we are voting  
5477 on the Guthrie amendment, as introduced by Mr. Hudson.

5478           \*Mr. Cardenas. Cardenas --

5479           \*Mrs. Dingell. Okay, Dingell votes no.

5480           \*Mr. Cardenas. How am I recorded, Cardenas?

5481           \*The Chairman. How is Mr. Cardenas recorded?

5482           \*The Clerk. Mr. Cardenas voted yes.

5483           \*Mr. Cardenas. I apologize, I meant to vote no. I  
5484 would like to correct my vote. No.

5485           \*The Clerk. Mr. Cardenas votes no.

5486           \*Mrs. Dingell. And Dingell votes --

5487           \*The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell?

5488           \*Mrs. Dingell. Votes no.

5489           \*The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell votes no.

5490 Mr. Veasey?

5491           \*Mr. Veasey. Veasey votes no.

5492           \*The Clerk. Mr. Veasey votes no.

5493 Ms. Kuster?

5494           \*Ms. Kuster. Kuster votes no.

5495           \*The Clerk. Ms. Kuster votes no.

5496 Ms. Kelly?

5497           \*Ms. Kelly. Kelly votes no.

5498           \*The Clerk. Ms. Kelly votes no.

5499 Ms. Barragan?

5500 \*Ms. Barragan. Ms. Barragan votes no.

5501 \*The Clerk. Ms. Barragan votes no.

5502 Mr. McEachin?

5503 \*Mr. McEachin. McEachin of Virginia votes no.

5504 \*The Clerk. Mr. McEachin votes no.

5505 Ms. Blunt Rochester?

5506 \*Ms. Blunt Rochester. Blunt Rochester votes no.

5507 \*The Clerk. Ms. Blunt Rochester votes no.

5508 Mr. Soto?

5509 [No response.]

5510 \*The Clerk. Mr. O'Halleran?

5511 \*Mr. O'Halleran. O'Halleran of Arizona votes no.

5512 \*The Clerk. Mr. O'Halleran votes no.

5513 Miss Rice?

5514 \*Miss Rice. [Inaudible.]

5515 \*The Clerk. Miss Rice votes no.

5516 Ms. Craig?

5517 \*Ms. Craig. Ms. Craig of Minnesota votes no.

5518 \*The Clerk. Ms. Craig votes no.

5519 Ms. Schrier?

5520 \*Ms. Schrier. Schrier votes no.

5521 \*The Clerk. Ms. Schrier, could you repeat your vote?

5522 I didn't see you.

5523 \*Ms. Schrier. Yes, Schrier votes no.

5524           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Schrier votes no.  
5525           Mrs. Trahan?  
5526           \*Mrs. Trahan.   Trahan votes no.  
5527           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Trahan votes no.  
5528           Mrs. Fletcher?  
5529           \*Mrs. Fletcher.   Fletcher votes no.  
5530           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Fletcher votes no.  
5531           Mrs. Rodgers?  
5532           \*Mrs. Rodgers.   Aye.  
5533           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Rodgers votes aye.  
5534           Mr. Upton?  
5535           \*Mr. Upton.   Votes aye, Mr. Upton votes aye.  
5536           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Upton votes aye.  
5537           Mr. Burgess?  
5538           \*Mr. Burgess.   Votes aye.  
5539           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Burgess votes aye.  
5540           Mr. Scalise?  
5541           \*Mr. Scalise.   Scalise votes aye.  
5542           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Scalise votes aye.  
5543           Mr. Latta?  
5544           [No response.]  
5545           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Latta, I think you are muted.  
5546           \*Mr. Latta.   Latta of Ohio votes aye.  
5547           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Latta votes aye.  
5548           Mr. Guthrie?

5549 \*Mr. Guthrie. Guthrie votes aye.  
5550 \*The Clerk. Mr. Guthrie votes aye.  
5551 Mr. McKinley?  
5552 \*Mr. McKinley. [Inaudible.]  
5553 \*The Clerk. Mr. McKinley votes aye.  
5554 Mr. Kinzinger?  
5555 [No response.]  
5556 \*The Clerk. Mr. Griffith?  
5557 \*Mr. Griffith. Votes aye.  
5558 \*The Clerk. Mr. Griffith votes aye.  
5559 Mr. Bilirakis?  
5560 \*Mr. Bilirakis. Bilirakis from Florida votes aye.  
5561 \*The Clerk. Mr. Bilirakis votes aye.  
5562 Mr. Johnson?  
5563 \*Mr. Johnson. Johnson votes aye.  
5564 \*The Clerk. Mr. Johnson votes aye.  
5565 Mr. Long?  
5566 [No response.]  
5567 \*The Clerk. Mr. Long, you are muted.  
5568 \*Mr. Long. Long votes aye.  
5569 \*The Clerk. Mr. Long votes aye.  
5570 Mr. Bucshon?  
5571 \*Mr. Bucshon. Bucshon from Indiana votes aye.  
5572 \*The Clerk. Mr. Bucshon votes aye.  
5573 Mr. Mullin?

5574           \*Mr. Mullin.   Mullin votes aye.  
5575           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Mullin votes aye.  
5576           Mr. Hudson?  
5577           \*Mr. Hudson.   Hudson of North Carolina votes aye.  
5578           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Hudson votes aye.  
5579           Mr. Walberg?  
5580           \*Mr. Walberg.   Walberg of Michigan votes aye.  
5581           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Walberg votes aye.  
5582           Mr. Carter?  
5583           \*Mr. Carter.   Carter from Georgia votes aye.  
5584           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Carter votes aye.  
5585           Mr. Duncan?  
5586           \*Mr. Duncan.   From the highways and byways of the great  
5587   Palmetto State, Mr. Duncan votes aye.  
5588           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Duncan votes aye.  
5589           Mr. Palmer?  
5590           \*Mr. Palmer.   [Inaudible.]  
5591           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Palmer votes aye.  
5592           Mr. Dunn?  
5593           \*Mr. Dunn.   Mr. Dunn of Florida votes aye.  
5594           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Dunn votes aye.  
5595           Mr. Curtis?  
5596           \*Mr. Curtis.   Curtis votes aye.  
5597           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Curtis votes aye.  
5598           Mrs. Lesko?

5599 \*Mrs. Lesko. Lesko from Arizona votes aye.  
5600 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Lesko votes aye.  
5601 Mr. Pence?  
5602 \*Mr. Pence. Pence from Indiana votes aye.  
5603 \*The Clerk. Mr. Pence votes aye.  
5604 Mr. Crenshaw?  
5605 \*Mr. Crenshaw. Crenshaw votes aye.  
5606 \*The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw votes aye.  
5607 Mr. Joyce?  
5608 \*Mr. Joyce. [Inaudible.]  
5609 \*The Clerk. Mr. Joyce votes aye.  
5610 Mr. Armstrong?  
5611 \*Mr. Armstrong. Armstrong votes yes.  
5612 \*The Clerk. Mr. Armstrong votes aye.  
5613 Mr. Pallone?  
5614 \*The Chairman. Pallone from New Jersey votes no.  
5615 \*The Clerk. Mr. Pallone votes no.  
5616 \*The Chairman. I think we had several --  
5617 \*Mr. Sarbanes. Mr. Chairman, how am I recorded?  
5618 Sarbanes.  
5619 \*The Chairman. Mr. Sarbanes is not recorded.  
5620 \*The Clerk. Mr. Sarbanes is not recorded.  
5621 \*The Chairman. How do you want to vote?  
5622 \*Mr. Sarbanes. Sarbanes votes no.  
5623 \*The Clerk. Mr. Sarbanes votes no.

5624           \*Mr. Ruiz. Mr. Chairman, how am I recorded? Ruiz from  
5625 California.  
5626           \*The Chairman. Mr. Schrader is not recorded. No?  
5627           \*The Clerk. Mr. Schrader is not recorded.  
5628           \*Mr. Schrader. Mr. Schrader votes no from Oregon.  
5629           \*The Clerk. Mr. Schrader votes no.  
5630           \*Mr. Tonko. Mr. Chair, it is Mr. Tonko. How am I  
5631 recorded, please?  
5632           \*The Chairman. Mr. Tonko?  
5633           \*The Clerk. Mr. Tonko is not recorded.  
5634           \*Mr. Tonko. Mr. Tonko of New York votes no.  
5635           \*The Clerk. Mr. Tonko votes no.  
5636           \*Mr. Kinzinger. Mr. Chairman?  
5637           \*The Chairman. Mr. --  
5638           \*Mr. Kinzinger. Kinzinger.  
5639           \*The Chairman. Yes?  
5640           \*Mr. Kinzinger. Mr. Kinzinger, how am I --  
5641           \*The Clerk. Mr. Kinzinger is not recorded.  
5642           \*Mr. Kinzinger. Kinzinger votes aye.  
5643           \*The Clerk. Mr. Kinzinger votes aye.  
5644           \*Mr. Ruiz. Mr. Chairman, how am I --  
5645           \*The Chairman. Mr. Soto? Oh, Mr. Ruiz?  
5646           \*The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz is not recorded.  
5647           \*Mr. Ruiz. Ruiz from California votes no.  
5648           \*The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz votes no.

5649           \*The Chairman. Mr. Soto?

5650           \*The Chairman. Mr. Soto is not recorded.

5651           \*Mr. Soto. Soto votes no.

5652           \*The Clerk. Mr. Soto votes no.

5653           \*The Chairman. I think that is everyone, Madam Clerk.

5654           \*The Clerk. Yes, sir.

5655           \*The Chairman. The clerk will report the tally.

5656           \*The Clerk. On that vote the yeas were 26 and the nays

5657 were 32.

5658           \*The Chairman. Okay, the vote is 26 ayes to 32 noes,

5659 and this is the Guthrie amendment, which is not agreed to.

5660           Are there further amendments to the Tonko substitute?

5661           \*Mr. Burgess. Mr. Chairman?

5662           \*The Chairman. Yes, Mr. --

5663           \*Mr. Burgess. Burgess, I have --

5664           \*The Chairman. Mr. Burgess?

5665           \*Mr. Burgess. Amendment No. 3.

5666           \*The Chairman. Do we have the Burgess amendment?

5667           \*The Clerk. Yes, I have it.

5668           \*The Chairman. Madam Clerk will report the amendment.

5669           \*The Clerk. Amendment to Subtitle A, offered by Mr.

5670 Burgess of Texas. Page 9 --

5671           \*The Chairman. And without objection, the reading of

5672 the Burgess amendment will be dispensed with.

5673



5674           [The amendment of Mr. Burgess follows:]

5675

5676       \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

5677

5678           \*The Chairman. And the gentleman from Texas is  
5679 recognized for five minutes.

5680           \*Mr. Burgess. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This amendment  
5681 deals with what could be referred to as stranded gas, natural  
5682 gas that is produced in the oil field where energy is  
5683 produced, that there is not a viable mechanism for getting it  
5684 to market. And sometimes this is vented, which is not a good  
5685 idea, and sometimes it is flared, which is a better idea, but  
5686 still not a great idea.

5687           This amendment would provide a mechanism to get that  
5688 stranded gas to the market by providing it some of the same  
5689 type of generous financial treatment that we provide to wind  
5690 and solar. So here is the deal: this provides \$5 billion to  
5691 use natural gas that is otherwise stranded, flared, or  
5692 released into the atmosphere to be used instead to generate  
5693 electricity.

5694           The biggest challenge to reducing methane emissions is  
5695 not a lack of will, but sometimes it can be infrastructure.  
5696 But it also poses an opportunity. Instead of just flaring  
5697 this resource, it could be used to generate electricity.

5698           Unfortunately, the gas producers are not incentivized in  
5699 this direction. But if you read the plain language of the  
5700 amendment, it rebates to entities for up to 30 percent of the  
5701 cost of capital investments made for capturing, transporting,  
5702 storing, or using methane that would otherwise be flared or

5703 released into the atmosphere, and is to be used to generate  
5704 electricity.

5705         And here is the good news. While this is an  
5706 infrastructure bill, and you would think, well,  
5707 infrastructure would be part of getting the natural gas from  
5708 the oil field from, say, the Permian Basin back to the  
5709 population centers, Dallas-Fort Worth, Houston, San Antonio,  
5710 in fact, that infrastructure already exists. It exists in  
5711 the forms of pipelines, which are abandoned and no longer  
5712 used, greater than six inches in diameter.

5713         And so this incentive to provide a producer the  
5714 opportunity to capture the gas, get it to market, and then  
5715 re-purpose or recycle or carbon capture and storage the  
5716 carbon dioxide that is produced in the generation of  
5717 electricity, this has the propensity, the possibility, of not  
5718 only reducing the methane that might be flared or simply  
5719 vented into the environment with significant consequences,  
5720 but to be used to generate electricity, and then be used in  
5721 carbon capture, possibly even enhanced oil recovery.

5722         Now, here is one of the problems. I know people on my  
5723 side are concerned about the cost of this. Again, this is,  
5724 in my mind, re-purposing the general -- the generous and  
5725 lucrative subsidies that are already provided to wind and  
5726 solar.

5727         Here is the deal: had we had the opportunity to have a

5728 hearing, had we had the opportunity to have a subcommittee  
5729 markup, all of this could have been discussed at that point.  
5730 But unfortunately, we jumped straight from the Speaker's  
5731 office to this big, \$3.5 trillion behemoth that we are now  
5732 stuck with, and the chairman tells us we have to be through  
5733 with it in 48 hours, which is no way, no way to run an  
5734 airline.

5735         Look, this is a valid concept, and one that I hope we  
5736 can keep in the forefront of our discussion. We want to  
5737 reduce methane. We want to reduce flaring. Here is a viable  
5738 way of doing it. This study that was done by the Texas  
5739 Railroad Commission that determined the number of unused  
5740 pipelines from the Permian back to the population centers of  
5741 Texas is one that is readily available, and this is the type  
5742 of exercise I think we should be looking at.

5743         But because we didn't have the opportunity for proper  
5744 hearings, we didn't have a markup in subcommittee, members  
5745 haven't had time to adequately digest this conceptually, I  
5746 will offer this and withdraw the amendment at this time. But  
5747 count on seeing it again at some point in the future, and I  
5748 yield back.

5749         \*The Chairman. Thank you, Dr. Burgess.

5750         Do we have other amendments to the Tonko -- he didn't  
5751 withdraw it? I thought he did.

5752         \*Voice. He yielded back. No, no.

5753           \*The Chairman. I thought you withdrew it. No?

5754           \*Voice. No.

5755           \*The Chairman. He did not?

5756           \*Voice. No, he yielded back.

5757           \*The Chairman. Do you want to withdraw it?

5758           \*Mr. Burgess. Yes, I ask unanimous consent to withdraw  
5759 the amendment, unless Mr. Pence wanted to speak on it.

5760           \*The Chairman. You do?

5761           Mr. Pence is recognized.

5762           \*Mr. Pence. I would just like to make a few comments in  
5763 support of what -- industry innovation, and how that has  
5764 happened in the coal industry and all across the pipeline,  
5765 motor fuel industry for decades and decades. And I would  
5766 just like to applaud Dr. Burgess for bringing this idea  
5767 forward, and I will be happy to be part of that as we move  
5768 forward.

5769           And with that, I yield back.

5770           \*Mr. Burgess. Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent to  
5771 withdraw the amendment.

5772           \*The Chairman. Dr. Burgess has asked to withdraw his  
5773 amendment. Without objection, so ordered.

5774           We have another amendment to the Tonko substitute. Yes?

5775           Mr. Armstrong?

5776           [No response.]

5777           \*The Chairman. Are there any other amendments?

5778           \*Voice.   Yes.

5779           \*The Chairman.   McKinley?    Mr. McKinley, you have an  
5780 amendment?

5781           \*Mr. McKinley.   Yes, Mr. Chairman.   It is at the desk.

5782           \*The Chairman.   Does the clerk have the Mckinley  
5783 amendment?

5784           \*The Clerk.   What is the title?

5785           \*The Chairman.   McKinley 108.

5786           \*Mr. McKinley.   Yes.

5787           \*The Chairman.   I am sorry, it is -- Madam Clerk, it is  
5788 B108.

5789           \*The Clerk.   We didn't receive that amendment.

5790           \*The Chairman.   You sure?   McKinley B108?

5791           \*Voice.   It is just B108.

5792           \*The Chairman.   It is just B108, no name.

5793           \*The Clerk.   Oh.

5794           \*The Chairman.   B, like boy, 108.

5795           \*The Clerk.   Yes, I have that.

5796           \*The Chairman.   You have it.   The clerk will report the  
5797 amendment.

5798           \*The Clerk.   Amendment to Subtitle A, offered by Mr.  
5799 McKinley of West Virginia.   Add, at the end of --

5800           \*The Chairman.   And without objection, the reading of  
5801 the McKinley amendment will be dispensed with.

5802

5803 [The amendment of Mr. McKinley follows:]

5804

5805 \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

5806

5807           \*The Chairman. And the gentleman is recognized for five  
5808 minutes.

5809           \*Mr. McKinley. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Perhaps we  
5810 finally have an amendment that we can all support.

5811           This amendment would prohibit funds in Subtitle A from  
5812 being used to purchase products containing critical minerals  
5813 mined in areas controlled by the Taliban.

5814           Now, Mr. Chairman, in 2010 the Department of Defense  
5815 identified \$1 trillion worth of undeveloped mineral deposits  
5816 in Afghanistan. They are now estimated to be worth \$3  
5817 trillion, and referred -- and the Department of Defense  
5818 referred to the country as the Saudi Arabia of lithium. And  
5819 lithium is a key ingredient in batteries for electric  
5820 vehicles, grid storage, solar power, wind turbines, and other  
5821 energy technologies.

5822           But as you know, the withdrawal of U.S. troops from  
5823 Afghanistan last month left that country in the control of  
5824 the Taliban, as well as its mineral deposits. And just hours  
5825 after the Taliban took control, China stated they were ready  
5826 for "friendly cooperation" with Afghanistan. Just remember,  
5827 China dominates the global market for these minerals. They  
5828 mine over 7 percent of the world's rare Earths, and are  
5829 responsible for 90 percent of the processing. China already  
5830 has a 30-year lease on the Afghan copper deposits, and  
5831 China's interest in Afghan minerals will continue to grow.



5832           Mr. Chairman, eliminating the U.S. reliance on the  
5833 Chinese and Taliban for minerals is a bipartisan issue that  
5834 all of us should be able to support.

5835           China previously threatened to cut off supplies of the  
5836 rare Earth elements to the United States in 2019, and  
5837 Congress should never, never let the United States be  
5838 vulnerable like that again.

5839           Mr. Chairman, I urge adoption of my amendment, and  
5840 request a recorded vote.

5841           \*The Chairman. Does anyone else want to speak on the  
5842 McKinley -- this -- the gentlewoman from Delaware, Ms. Blunt  
5843 Rochester, is recognized for five minutes.

5844           \*Ms. Blunt Rochester. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move  
5845 to strike the last word.

5846           \*The Chairman. The gentlewoman is recognized.

5847           \*Ms. Blunt Rochester. Mr. -- to all of my colleagues,  
5848 no one on this side of the aisle disagrees that -- the issues  
5849 we must address regarding the extraction of critical  
5850 minerals. However, these are challenges with solutions.

5851           Throughout this Congress, Democrats have been working to  
5852 develop these solutions. The bipartisan infrastructure bill,  
5853 for instance, includes vital measures championed by members  
5854 of this committee that will develop a domestic supply chain  
5855 for critical minerals processing, manufacturing, recovery,  
5856 and recycling. Given my colleague's interest in addressing

5857 critical minerals supply chain issues, I look forward to his  
5858 vote in support of the bipartisan infrastructure bill.

5859 In addition, this Administration has taken decisive  
5860 action to stop the import of goods whose components were  
5861 produced under forced labor. This critical decision sends a  
5862 clear signal that the United States does not -- I repeat,  
5863 does not -- tolerate harmful labor practices abroad.

5864 I look forward to working with my colleagues, who are  
5865 eager to address this topic, but this amendment is nothing  
5866 more than a distraction from what we are trying to do here  
5867 today, make vital, long-overdue investments to tackle the  
5868 climate crisis. I hope my colleagues on both sides of the  
5869 aisle share this sense of urgency, and join me in opposing  
5870 this amendment.

5871 I yield back.

5872 \*The Chairman. I thank the gentlewoman. Mrs. Rodgers  
5873 is recognized for five minutes.

5874 \*Mrs. Rodgers. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to  
5875 strike the last word.

5876 \*The Chairman. The gentlewoman is recognized.

5877 \*Mrs. Rodgers. We have all witnessed, with sadness and  
5878 anger, the Taliban's takeover of Afghanistan as a result of  
5879 the failure of the Biden-Harris Administration. Almost  
5880 immediately following the Taliban's takeover, the reaction by  
5881 the People's Republic of China was to strengthen commercial

5882 relationships there. We closed our embassy. China and  
5883 Russia have theirs open.

5884 We have heard testimony in a number of hearings  
5885 detailing the growing reliance on critical minerals and  
5886 related processing from China and its affiliates, as the  
5887 United States uses more solar, wind, battery technologies,  
5888 and related components.

5889 This rush to green in many ways is a rush to trade our  
5890 energy security -- energy security that we finally gained,  
5891 energy independence in 2020 -- for reliance on China and  
5892 other adversaries.

5893 News in recent weeks that the Taliban are sitting on an  
5894 estimated \$1 trillion in minerals, including critical  
5895 minerals, explains the Chinese Communist Party's rush to  
5896 close the relationship with the new regime.

5897 This subtitle spends some tens of billions of dollars in  
5898 a slush fund for renewable technologies. And if we are not  
5899 careful, those funds will enrich our adversaries, and  
5900 increase our energy and economic security risk.

5901 A vote for this amendment is a vote for American supply  
5902 chains and against the Taliban and Chinese enriching  
5903 themselves on the backs of hardworking American families.  
5904 Vote yes.

5905 I yield back.

5906 \*The Chairman. The gentlewoman yields back. Does

5907 anyone else on either side -- Mr. Ruiz and Mr. Armstrong, you  
5908 both have your hands up. Is that old? You want to speak on  
5909 this?

5910 All right, anyone else want to address this McKinley  
5911 amendment?

5912 All right, then we will go to a vote.

5913 Oh, Mr. Palmer is recognized.

5914 \*Mr. Palmer. I move to strike the last word.

5915 \*The Chairman. The gentleman is recognized for five  
5916 minutes.

5917 \*Mr. Palmer. I just want to point out that, in our  
5918 move, this rapid move to a renewable energy grid that the  
5919 Biden Administration anticipates, and that my Democrat  
5920 colleagues anticipate, cannot be accomplished without a  
5921 almost total reliance on China.

5922 Currently, the U.S. imports 100 percent of its rare  
5923 Earth material, which you must have to build solar panels and  
5924 turbines. Eighty percent of those are imported from China.  
5925 Given the current permitting regime, regulatory regime  
5926 imposed by this Administration, there is no way that we are  
5927 going to get our mining operations or refining operations or  
5928 manufacturing operations for renewables development in a  
5929 timely manner to meet the goals of my Democrat colleagues in  
5930 the Biden Administration to achieve a major pivot toward  
5931 renewables.

5932           So, with all due respect to my distinguished colleagues  
5933   on the other side of the aisle, what is going on in  
5934   Afghanistan and China will wind up dominating the mining  
5935   operations for rare Earth materials and other materials in  
5936   Afghanistan. This is going to be an enormous problem for the  
5937   United States, primarily because we are not developing our  
5938   own rare Earth materials mining, refining, and manufacturing  
5939   operations at a rapid-enough pace to not be in danger of  
5940   being held -- basically, held hostage by China.

5941           With that I yield back.

5942           \*The Chairman. I thank the gentleman. Anyone else want  
5943   to speak on the McKinley amendment?

5944           He asked for a recorded vote, I think. All right, we  
5945   will go to a recorded vote. A recorded vote is ordered on  
5946   the McKinley amendment. Those in favor of the amendment will  
5947   say aye, those opposed to the amendment will say no, and the  
5948   clerk shall call the roll.

5949           \*The Clerk. Mr. Rush?

5950           \*Mr. Rush. Rush votes no.

5951           \*The Clerk. Mr. Rush votes no.

5952           Ms. Eshoo?

5953           \*Ms. Eshoo. Eshoo of California votes no.

5954           \*The Clerk. Ms. Eshoo votes no.

5955           Ms. DeGette?

5956           \*Ms. DeGette. DeGette votes no.

5957           \*The Clerk.   Ms. DeGette votes no.  
5958           Mr. Doyle?  
5959           \*Mr. Doyle.   Doyle votes no.  
5960           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Doyle votes no.  
5961           Ms. Schakowsky?  
5962           \*Ms. Schakowsky.   Schakowsky votes no.  
5963           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Schakowsky votes no.  
5964           Mr. Butterfield?  
5965           \*Mr. Butterfield.   Butterfield votes no.  
5966           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Butterfield votes no.  
5967           Ms. Matsui?  
5968           \*Ms. Matsui.   Matsui of California votes no.  
5969           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Matsui votes no.  
5970           Ms. Castor?  
5971           \*Ms. Castor.   Castor of Florida votes no.  
5972           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Castor votes no.  
5973           Mr. Sarbanes?  
5974           \*Mr. Sarbanes.   Mr. Sarbanes votes no.  
5975           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Sarbanes votes no.  
5976           Mr. McNerney?  
5977           \*Mr. McNerney.   McNerney votes no.  
5978           \*The Clerk.   Mr. McNerney votes no.  
5979           Mr. Welch?  
5980           \*Mr. Welch.   Welch votes no.  
5981           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Welch votes no.

5982 Mr. Tonko?

5983 \*Mr. Tonko. New York votes no.

5984 \*The Clerk. Mr. Tonko votes no.

5985 Ms. Clarke?

5986 \*Ms. Clarke. Clarke of New York votes no.

5987 \*The Clerk. Ms. Clarke votes no.

5988 Mr. Schrader?

5989 \*Mr. Schrader. Schrader of Oregon votes no.

5990 \*The Clerk. Mr. Schrader votes no.

5991 Mr. Cardenas?

5992 \*Mr. Cardenas. Cardenas, representing California, votes

5993 no.

5994 \*The Clerk. Mr. Cardenas votes no.

5995 Mr. Ruiz?

5996 \*Mr. Ruiz. Ruiz from California votes no.

5997 \*The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz votes no.

5998 Mr. Peters?

5999 \*Mr. Peters. [Inaudible.]

6000 \*The Clerk. Mr. Peters votes no.

6001 Mrs. Dingell?

6002 \*Mrs. Dingell. Dingell votes no.

6003 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell votes no.

6004 Mr. Veasey?

6005 \*Mr. Veasey. Veasey votes no.

6006 \*The Clerk. Mr. Veasey votes no.

6007 Ms. Kuster?

6008 \*Ms. Kuster. Kuster votes no.

6009 \*The Clerk. Ms. Kuster votes no.

6010 Ms. Kelly?

6011 \*Ms. Kelly. Kelly votes no.

6012 \*The Clerk. Ms. Kelly votes no.

6013 Ms. Barragan?

6014 \*Ms. Barragan. Barragan votes no.

6015 \*The Clerk. Ms. Barragan votes no.

6016 Mr. McEachin?

6017 \*Mr. McEachin. McEachin of Virginia votes no.

6018 \*The Clerk. Mr. McEachin votes no.

6019 Ms. Blunt Rochester?

6020 \*Ms. Blunt Rochester. Blunt Rochester votes no.

6021 \*The Clerk. Ms. Blunt Rochester votes no.

6022 Mr. Soto?

6023 \*Mr. Soto. Soto votes no.

6024 \*The Clerk. Mr. Soto votes no.

6025 Mr. O'Halleran?

6026 \*Mr. O'Halleran. O'Halleran votes no.

6027 \*The Clerk. Mr. O'Halleran votes no.

6028 Miss Rice?

6029 \*Miss Rice. [Inaudible.]

6030 \*The Clerk. Miss Rice votes no.

6031 Ms. Craig?



6032           \*Ms. Craig.   Ms. Craig votes no.  
6033           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Craig votes no.  
6034           Ms. Schrier?  
6035           \*Ms. Schrier.   Schrier votes no.  
6036           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Schrier votes no.  
6037           Mrs. Trahan?  
6038           \*Mrs. Trahan.   Trahan votes no.  
6039           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Trahan votes no.  
6040           Mrs. Fletcher?  
6041           \*Mrs. Fletcher.   Fletcher votes no.  
6042           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Fletcher votes no.  
6043           Mrs. Rodgers?  
6044           \*Mrs. Rodgers.   [Inaudible.]  
6045           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Rodgers votes aye.  
6046           Mr. Upton?  
6047           \*Mr. Upton.   Upton votes aye.  
6048           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Upton, could you repeat your vote?   I  
6049    didn't see you.  
6050           \*Mr. Upton.   Yes, Upton votes aye.  
6051           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Upton votes aye.  
6052           Mr. Burgess?  
6053           \*Mr. Burgess.   Votes aye.  
6054           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Burgess votes aye.  
6055           Mr. Scalise?  
6056           \*Mr. Scalise.   Scalise votes aye.

6057           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Scalise votes aye.  
6058           Mr. Latta?  
6059           \*Mr. Latta.   Latta votes aye.  
6060           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Latta votes aye.  
6061           Mr. Guthrie?  
6062           \*Mr. Guthrie.   Guthrie votes aye.  
6063           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Guthrie votes aye.  
6064           Mr. McKinley?  
6065           \*Mr. McKinley.   Aye.  
6066           \*The Clerk.   Mr. McKinley votes aye.  
6067           Mr. Kinzinger?  
6068           [No response.]  
6069           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Griffith?  
6070           \*Mr. Griffith.   Griffith votes aye.  
6071           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Griffith votes aye.  
6072           Mr. Bilirakis?  
6073           \*Mr. Bilirakis.   [Inaudible.]  
6074           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Bilirakis votes aye.  
6075           Mr. Johnson?  
6076           \*Mr. Johnson.   Johnson votes aye.  
6077           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Johnson votes aye.  
6078           Mr. Long?  
6079           \*Mr. Long.   Mr. Long from the Bicentennial State of  
6080   Missouri votes aye.  
6081           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Long votes aye.

6082 Mr. Bucshon?

6083 \*Mr. Bucshon. Bucshon from Indiana votes aye.

6084 \*The Clerk. Mr. Bucshon votes aye.

6085 Mr. Mullin?

6086 \*Mr. Mullin. Votes aye.

6087 \*The Clerk. Mr. Mullin votes aye.

6088 Mr. Hudson?

6089 \*Mr. Hudson. Hudson of North Carolina votes aye.

6090 \*The Clerk. Mr. Hudson votes aye.

6091 Mr. Walberg?

6092 \*Mr. Walberg. Walberg votes aye.

6093 \*The Clerk. Mr. Walberg votes aye.

6094 Mr. Carter?

6095 \*Mr. Carter. Carter from Georgia votes aye.

6096 \*The Clerk. Mr. Carter votes aye.

6097 Mr. Duncan?

6098 \*Mr. Duncan. Mr. Duncan from the great state of South

6099 Carolina votes aye.

6100 \*The Clerk. Mr. Duncan votes aye.

6101 Mr. Palmer?

6102 \*Mr. Palmer. [Inaudible.]

6103 \*The Clerk. Mr. Palmer votes aye.

6104 Mr. Dunn?

6105 \*Mr. Dunn. Mr. Dunn of Florida votes aye.

6106 \*The Clerk. Mr. Dunn votes aye.

6107 Mr. Curtis?

6108 \*Mr. Curtis. Curtis votes aye.

6109 \*The Clerk. Mr. Curtis votes aye.

6110 Mrs. Lesko?

6111 \*Mrs. Lesko. Lesko of Arizona votes aye.

6112 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Lesko votes aye.

6113 Mr. Pence?

6114 \*Mr. Pence. Pence of Indiana votes aye.

6115 \*The Clerk. Mr. Pence votes aye.

6116 Mr. Crenshaw?

6117 \*Mr. Crenshaw. Crenshaw votes aye.

6118 \*The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw votes aye.

6119 Mr. Joyce?

6120 \*Mr. Joyce. Joyce votes aye.

6121 \*The Clerk. Mr. Joyce votes aye.

6122 Mr. Armstrong?

6123 \*Mr. Armstrong. Armstrong votes yes.

6124 \*The Clerk. Mr. Armstrong votes aye.

6125 Mr. Pallone?

6126 \*The Chairman. [Inaudible.]

6127 \*The Clerk. Mr. Pallone votes no.

6128 \*The Chairman. Do we have anybody who we missed?

6129 Mr. Schrader?

6130 \*Mr. Schrader. I would like to change my vote.

6131 \*The Chairman. Mr. Schrader wants to change. How is he

6132 recorded?

6133 \*The Clerk. Mr. Schrader voted no.

6134 \*Mr. Schrader. I would like to be recorded yes.

6135 \*The Clerk. Mr. Schrader votes aye.

6136 \*The Chairman. Schrader votes aye.

6137 I think Kinzinger voted, didn't he?

6138 \*The Clerk. Mr. Kinzinger is not recorded.

6139 \*The Chairman. He is at the hearing in Foreign Affairs.

6140 What do you want to do?

6141 \*Voice. Yes, he is not responding.

6142 \*The Chairman. All right, so he can't vote on this one.

6143 So the clerk will report the tally.

6144 \*The Clerk. On that vote the yeas were 26 and the nays  
6145 were 31.

6146 \*The Chairman. Thirty-one, okay, so this is on the  
6147 McKinley amendment. The vote is 26 ayes to 31 noes, and the  
6148 amendment is not agreed to. Is that correct?

6149 \*Voice. Yes, because they didn't have one person.

6150 \*The Chairman. Okay, do we have any other amendments to  
6151 the Tonko substitute?

6152 Mrs. Lesko, do you have an amendment?

6153 \*Voice. Did Mrs. Lesko --

6154 \*Voice. Yes.

6155 \*The Chairman. Mrs. Lesko?

6156 \*Mrs. Lesko. Yes, what subtitle are we in?

6157           \*The Chairman. This is the first print on air  
6158 pollution.

6159           \*Mrs. Lesko. I don't think I have one in Subtitle A.

6160           \*The Chairman. Yes, it is title A, right? It is title  
6161 A. Do we know what hers is?

6162           \*Voice. Go to Curtis.

6163           \*The Chairman. You want to go to Curtis? All right,  
6164 we are going to pass and go to Curtis, if that is okay.

6165           \*Mr. Curtis. Mr. Chairman, I am ready, if that is  
6166 appropriate.

6167           \*The Chairman. And yours, what is yours labeled?

6168           \*Mr. Curtis. Curtis amendment No. 1.

6169           \*The Chairman. Does the clerk have that?

6170 [Pause.]

6171           \*Voice. It is 12A or Curtis 1.

6172           \*Voice. No, it is 12A.

6173           \*The Chairman. Twelve A, Madam Clerk.

6174 [Pause.]

6175           \*The Chairman. No? You have it?

6176           \*The Clerk. I have it.

6177           \*The Chairman. Madam Clerk will read -- report the  
6178 amendment.

6179           \*The Clerk. Amendment to Subtitle A, offered by Mr.  
6180 Curtis of Utah. Amend section --

6181           \*The Chairman. Without objection, the reading of the

6182     Curtis amendment will be dispensed with.

6183             [The amendment of Mr. Curtis follows:]

6184

6185     \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

6186

6187           \*The Chairman. And the gentleman is recognized for five  
6188 minutes.

6189           \*Mr. Curtis. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I will be very  
6190 brief.

6191           I have heard a lot of debate today concerning the role  
6192 of fossil fuels, but I believe we all agree that less methane  
6193 is better than more methane.

6194           Now, I have already spoken about my opposition to this  
6195 tax. With that said, my amendment would at least improve  
6196 this new tax by ensuring these funds are used to reduce  
6197 methane emissions, not money for random projects at the EPA,  
6198 by giving the funds directly to the state, where the methane  
6199 emissions were taxed, rather than to the EPA.

6200           Now, I would like to point out two very important  
6201 reasons why I think this is a better distribution of these  
6202 funds.

6203           First, those closest to the methane --

6204           \*The Chairman. The gentleman -- Mr. Curtis, would you  
6205 just --

6206           \*Mr. Curtis. -- their unique equipment --

6207           \*The Chairman. Mr. Curtis, would you suspend for a  
6208 moment?

6209           What is the matter?

6210           \*Voice. I think he is talking something about a  
6211 different amendment.



6212           \*Voice. I think he is, too.

6213           \*The Chairman. We think we have the wrong amendment,

6214 Mr. Curtis. Let's wait a minute.

6215           \*Mr. Curtis. All right.

6216           \*The Chairman. Let's see what we are doing.

6217           \*Mr. Curtis. Got it.

6218           \*Voice. I think he is reading something else.

6219           \*Voice. I think he is, too.

6220           \*The Chairman. What do you want to do?

6221           \*Voice. Well, we have already called up --

6222           \*The Chairman. Which one is it?

6223           \*Voice. Twelve A.

6224           \*The Chairman. It is your amendment, Mr. Curtis, but

6225 not the one you are talking about.

6226           \*Voice. No preemption.

6227           \*The Chairman. So one that deals with no preemption.

6228           \*Mr. Curtis. Right. So the one we had intended to call

6229 up deals with --

6230           \*The Chairman. Do you want to deal with -- do you want

6231 to do the other one, or not? The one on no preemption.

6232           \*Mr. Curtis. So my preference is to do the one that I

6233 was intending, which is dealing with the allocation of funds.

6234           \*The Chairman. All right, so can we just withdraw that

6235 one, Madam Clark, at his request?

6236           \*The Clerk. Yes.

6237           \*The Chairman. All right. So Mr. Curtis has asked  
6238 unanimous consent to withdraw his amendment.

6239           Without objection, so ordered.

6240           And now we -- what is the other one?

6241           \*Voice. Curtis\_01.

6242           \*The Chairman. Curtis\_01 is the one he wants to bring  
6243 up. You have that?

6244           \*The Clerk. The -- I just read Curtis\_01.

6245           \*Voice. Oh, so she may have --

6246           \*The Clerk. Curtis\_01. That is what I read.

6247           \*The Chairman. We did have the right one?

6248           \*The Clerk. That was the right one.

6249           \*The Chairman. All right, I am sorry. I am sorry,  
6250 John. I guess we did have the right one. Let's start over  
6251 again.

6252           All right, the clerk will report Curtis\_01. Let's just  
6253 make sure we know what we are doing here. Go ahead.

6254           Hold on.

6255           [Pause.]

6256           \*The Chairman. Right now there is nothing, because he  
6257 withdrew it. What do you want to do?

6258           \*Voice. So Curtis --

6259           \*Mr. Curtis. Mr. Chairman, I believe it is Curtis\_01.  
6260 I can read the first few lines, as I see it here, for the  
6261 clerk, if that is helpful.

6262           \*The Chairman. Go ahead, read the first two lines.

6263           \*Mr. Curtis. Okay, line --

6264           \*Mr. Sarbanes. Your exercise regimen, how has that been  
6265 going?

6266           \*Mr. Curtis. Allocation among states, and using amounts  
6267 as provided in subsection I(2), other than the cost of  
6268 developing and administrating.

6269           \*The Chairman. You have -- you know which one that is?

6270           \*Mr. Sarbanes. You just have to delegate some regular  
6271 time.

6272           \*Voice. Allocation among states?

6273           \*The Chairman. All right, let's just make sure that we  
6274 bring up the one he wants. Are we ready?

6275           \*Voice. Yes.

6276           \*The Chairman. Because right now there is nothing. So,  
6277 okay, read the amendment that he is asking for.

6278           \*The Clerk. Amend section 136 of the Clean Air Act, as  
6279 added by section 30114 of Subtitle A relating to --

6280           \*Mr. Sarbanes. For exercising purposes, all you have to  
6281 do is one half-hour a week.

6282           \*The Chairman. All right. So, without objection, the  
6283 reading of the Curtis amendment will be --

6284           \*Mr. Sarbanes. It is not the amount you do, it is that  
6285 you just --

6286           \*Voice. Sarbanes needs to mute.

6287           \*The Chairman. John, you can't -- you have got to mute  
6288 yourself.

6289           \*Mr. Curtis. So it is -- that is not me, Mr. Chairman.  
6290 That is somebody else.

6291           \*The Chairman. Mr. John Sarbanes has to mute himself.  
6292 Mr. John Curtis is now in -- is now -- his amendment is --  
6293 did we move his amendment?

6294           \*The Clerk. Yes.

6295           \*The Chairman. Okay. So, without objection, the  
6296 reading of the Curtis amendment will be dispensed with, and  
6297 Mr. John Curtis from Utah is recognized.

6298           \*Mr. Curtis. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am not so sure  
6299 Mr. John Sarbanes doesn't have more interesting conversation.

6300           [Laughter.]

6301           \*Mr. Curtis. I will jump in and start over. Thank you  
6302 for your patience in getting the right amendment.

6303           I think we can all agree that methane is a potent  
6304 greenhouse gas emission. As a matter of fact, despite all  
6305 the debate we have had today on fossil fuels, nobody has  
6306 really suggested that less methane is not better than more  
6307 methane.

6308           I have already spoken out about my opposition to this  
6309 tax. My amendment actually improves this. Let me be clear:  
6310 my preference is no tax.

6311           That said, my amendment would improve this new tax by

6312 ensuring these funds are used to reduce methane emissions,  
6313 not money for random projects at the EPA, by giving the funds  
6314 directly to the state, where the methane emissions were  
6315 taxed, rather than to the EPA.

6316         Now, let me point out two reasons why I think this is an  
6317 important change. First of all, those closest to the methane  
6318 leaks have an understanding of their unique equipment and  
6319 operations and how to fix them, far beyond that of our EPA  
6320 friends in Washington, D.C. Secondly, hopefully, everyone  
6321 can see the corruption causing motivation if the EPA is  
6322 motivated by financial win based on heavy-handed or  
6323 aggressive enforcement.

6324         I ask my -- I urge my colleagues to support this  
6325 amendment, which only changes the distribution of the funds  
6326 to the states, rather than the EPA, and I request a recorded  
6327 vote and yield my time.

6328         \*The Chairman. Thank you. Does anyone else want to  
6329 speak on the Curtis amendment?

6330         No? Anyone want to speak on the Curtis amendment?  
6331 Otherwise, we are going to go to a vote.

6332         All right, we will go to a vote. He asked -- he -- a  
6333 recorded vote has been requested. So --

6334         \*Mr. Curtis. Mr. Chairman? Mr. Chairman?

6335         \*The Chairman. Yes?

6336         \*Mr. Curtis. I am content with making my point, and

6337 withdrawing the amendment, and saving the committee the time.

6338 \*The Chairman. All right, the gentleman has asked

6339 unanimous consent to withdraw his amendment.

6340 Without objection, so ordered. Where are we going now?

6341 All right, now we are going back to Debbie.

6342 All right, Mrs. Lesko?

6343 \*Mrs. Lesko. Yes?

6344 \*The Chairman. Do you have an amendment?

6345 \*Mrs. Lesko. Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have an  
6346 amendment at the desk, number LeskoB1\_11.

6347 \*The Chairman. Does the clerk have that amendment?

6348 \*The Clerk. Yes, sir.

6349 \*The Chairman. All right. The clerk will report the  
6350 Lesko amendment.

6351 \*The Clerk. Amendment to Subtitle A, offered by Mrs.  
6352 Lesko of Arizona.

6353 \*The Chairman. Without objection, the reading of the  
6354 Lesko amendment will be dispensed with.

6355 [The amendment of Mrs. Lesko follows:]

6356

6357 \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

6358

6359           \*The Chairman. And the gentlewoman from Arizona is  
6360 recognized for five minutes.

6361           \*Mrs. Lesko. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My amendment  
6362 ensures that nothing in this subtitle shall be interpreted to  
6363 apply a requirement to federally-recognized Indian tribes.

6364           The so-called Clean Electricity Payment Program --  
6365 series of incentives for more solar and wind energy. It also  
6366 includes a significant penalty on utilities that fail to  
6367 increase their clean electricity percentage by an arbitrary  
6368 four percent a year.

6369           How would an electric utility go after -- go about  
6370 meeting this new Federal mandate? According to Democrats,  
6371 it is easy. You can overbuild more solar and wind,  
6372 regardless of the cost to taxpayers. Or you can shut down  
6373 some existing coal and natural gas generation, leading to a  
6374 higher share of generation by intermittent solar and wind,  
6375 regardless of the effect on energy, reliability, and  
6376 affordability. I think it is safe to say that is what my  
6377 Democratic colleagues ultimately want to achieve.

6378           It saddens me that we haven't learned our lesson from  
6379 costly Federal interventions of the past. I think about  
6380 communities in Arizona like Page, Arizona, which thrived on  
6381 the operation of the Navajo generating station, a coal-fired  
6382 electric generation station. It wasn't supposed to close  
6383 until 2044, but it ultimately closed in 2019. And that

6384 community, including the Native American tribes, suffered,  
6385 and many lost their jobs.

6386 Earlier this year, when the Biden Administration  
6387 announced a temporary suspension of U.S. oil and gas leasing  
6388 and permitting on Federal lands, it exempted tribal lands. I  
6389 believe that this bill is extremely costly, and bad for our  
6390 country. But the least we can do is apply the same logic  
6391 used by the Biden Administration, and ensure that costly  
6392 requirements in this bill do not apply to federally-  
6393 recognized Indian tribes.

6394 I urge a yes vote on my amendment, and I yield back.  
6395 Thank you, Mr. Chair.

6396 \*The Chairman. I thank the gentlewoman. Ms. Clarke is  
6397 recognized for five minutes.

6398 \*Ms. Clarke. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last  
6399 word.

6400 \*The Chairman. The gentlewoman is recognized.

6401 \*Ms. Clarke. Mr. Chairman, Subtitle A makes critically  
6402 important investments in public health, communities across  
6403 the nation, and in combating climate change. These  
6404 investments will provide much-needed resources to our native  
6405 communities across the country: new clean vehicles, air  
6406 quality monitoring, pollution reduction projects, and grants  
6407 to cope with wildfires. All of these investments and more  
6408 will help Native Americans with public health, and dealing



6409 with pollution.

6410 In addition to these investments, the subtitle  
6411 appropriately collects a fee on methane emissions from  
6412 polluting industries.

6413 At a time when it is critical that we invest in  
6414 solutions to climate -- to the climate crisis, unfortunately,  
6415 my Republican colleagues want to go backwards. This  
6416 amendment is unnecessary, and seeks to solve a problem that  
6417 doesn't exist. So I want to urge my colleagues to vote no.

6418 And if my colleague -- if there is more that we can do  
6419 to assist my colleague in addressing these issues, we look  
6420 forward to working with her. But this is not a solution to  
6421 what we are trying to get accomplished here.

6422 With that, Mr. Chairman, I yield back.

6423 \*The Chairman. Thank you. Does anyone else want to  
6424 speak on the Lesko amendment?

6425 Anybody virtually?

6426 All right, then we are going to move to a vote. She has  
6427 requested a recorded vote, I believe. All right. So a  
6428 recorded vote is ordered. Those in favor of the Lesko  
6429 amendment will vote aye, those opposed will vote no, and the  
6430 clerk shall call the roll.

6431 \*The Clerk. Mr. Rush?

6432 \*Mr. Rush. Mr. Rush, of the great state of Chicago --  
6433 no.

6434           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Rush votes no.  
6435           Ms. Eshoo?  
6436           \*Ms. Eshoo.   Eshoo of California votes no.  
6437           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Eshoo votes no.  
6438           Ms. DeGette?  
6439           \*Ms. DeGette.   DeGette votes no.  
6440           \*The Clerk.   Ms. DeGette votes no.  
6441           Mr. Doyle?  
6442           \*Mr. Doyle.   Doyle votes no.  
6443           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Doyle votes no.  
6444           Ms. Schakowsky?  
6445           \*Ms. Schakowsky.   No.  
6446           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Schakowsky votes no.  
6447           Mr. Butterfield?  
6448           \*Mr. Butterfield.   Butterfield of North Carolina votes  
6449   no.  
6450           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Butterfield votes no.  
6451           Ms. Matsui?  
6452           \*Ms. Matsui.   Matsui of California votes no.  
6453           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Matsui votes no.  
6454           Ms. Castor?  
6455           \*Ms. Castor.   Castor of Florida votes no.  
6456           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Castor votes no.  
6457           Mr. Sarbanes?  
6458           [No response.]

6459           \*The Clerk.   Mr. McNerney?  
6460           \*Mr. McNerney.   McNerney, California, no.  
6461           \*The Clerk.   Mr. McNerney votes no.  
6462           Mr. Welch?  
6463           \*Mr. Welch.   Mr. Welch of Vermont votes no.  
6464           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Welch votes no.  
6465           Mr. Tonko?  
6466           \*Mr. Tonko.   Mr. Tonko of New York votes no.  
6467           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Tonko votes no.  
6468           Ms. Clarke?  
6469           \*Ms. Clarke.   Clarke of New York votes no.  
6470           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Clarke votes no.  
6471           Mr. Schrader?  
6472           \*Mr. Schrader.   Schrader of Oregon votes no.  
6473           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Schrader votes no.  
6474           Mr. Cardenas?  
6475           \*Mr. Cardenas.   Cardenas, representing California, votes  
6476           no.  
6477           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Cardenas votes no.  
6478           Mr. Ruiz?  
6479           \*Mr. Ruiz.   Ruiz from California votes no.  
6480           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Ruiz votes no.  
6481           Mr. Peters?  
6482           \*Mr. Peters.   [Inaudible.]  
6483           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Peters votes no.

6484 Mrs. Dingell?  
6485 \*Mrs. Dingell. Dingell votes no.  
6486 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell votes no.  
6487 Mr. Veasey?  
6488 \*Mr. Veasey. Veasey votes no.  
6489 \*The Clerk. Mr. Veasey votes no.  
6490 Ms. Kuster?  
6491 \*Ms. Kuster. Kuster votes no.  
6492 \*The Clerk. Ms. Kuster votes no.  
6493 Ms. Kelly?  
6494 \*Ms. Kelly. Kelly votes no.  
6495 \*The Clerk. Ms. Kelly votes no.  
6496 Ms. Barragan?  
6497 \*Ms. Barragan. Ms. Barragan votes no.  
6498 \*The Clerk. Ms. Barragan votes no.  
6499 Mr. McEachin?  
6500 \*Mr. McEachin. McEachin of Virginia votes no.  
6501 \*The Clerk. Mr. McEachin votes no.  
6502 Ms. Blunt Rochester?  
6503 \*Ms. Blunt Rochester. Blunt Rochester of Delaware votes  
6504 no.  
6505 \*The Clerk. Ms. Blunt Rochester votes no.  
6506 Mr. Soto?  
6507 \*Mr. Soto. [Inaudible.]  
6508 \*The Clerk. Mr. Soto votes no.

6509 Mr. O'Halleran?

6510 \*Mr. O'Halleran. O'Halleran votes no.

6511 \*The Clerk. Mr. O'Halleran votes no.

6512 Miss Rice?

6513 \*Miss Rice. [Inaudible.]

6514 \*The Clerk. Miss Rice votes no.

6515 Ms. Craig?

6516 \*Ms. Craig. Ms. Craig of Minnesota votes no.

6517 \*The Clerk. Ms. Craig votes no.

6518 Ms. Schrier?

6519 \*Ms. Schrier. Schrier votes no.

6520 \*The Clerk. Ms. Schrier votes no.

6521 Mrs. Trahan?

6522 \*Mrs. Trahan. Trahan votes no.

6523 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan, can you repeat your vote,

6524 please? I couldn't see you.

6525 \*Mrs. Trahan. Sure. Trahan votes no.

6526 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan votes no.

6527 Mrs. Fletcher?

6528 \*Mrs. Fletcher. Fletcher votes no.

6529 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher votes no.

6530 Mrs. Rodgers?

6531 [No response.]

6532 \*The Clerk. Mr. Upton?

6533 \*Mr. Upton. Mr. Upton votes aye.

6534           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Upton votes aye.  
6535           Mr. Burgess?  
6536           [No response.]  
6537           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Scalise?  
6538           \*Mr. Scalise.   Scalise votes aye.  
6539           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Scalise votes aye.  
6540           Mr. Latta?  
6541           \*Mr. Latta.   Latta votes aye.  
6542           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Latta votes aye.  
6543           Mr. Guthrie?  
6544           \*Mr. Guthrie.   Votes aye.  
6545           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Guthrie votes aye.  
6546           Mr. McKinley?  
6547           \*Mr. McKinley.   Aye.  
6548           \*The Clerk.   Mr. McKinley votes aye.  
6549           Mr. Kinzinger?  
6550           \*Mr. Kinzinger.   Kinzinger votes aye.  
6551           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Kinzinger votes aye.  
6552           Mr. Griffith?  
6553           \*Mr. Griffith.   [Inaudible.]  
6554           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Griffith votes aye.  
6555           Mr. Bilirakis?  
6556           \*Mr. Bilirakis.   Bilirakis votes aye.  
6557           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Bilirakis votes aye.  
6558           Mr. Johnson?

6559           \*Mr. Johnson.   Johnson votes aye.  
6560           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Johnson votes aye.  
6561           Mr. Long?  
6562           \*Mr. Long.   Long votes aye.  
6563           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Long votes aye.  
6564           Mr. Bucshon?  
6565           \*Mr. Bucshon.   Bucshon from Indiana votes aye.  
6566           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Bucshon, do you mind repeating your  
6567   vote?    I couldn't see you.  
6568           \*Mr. Bucshon.   Sure.   Mr. Bucshon from Indiana votes  
6569   aye.  
6570           \*The Clerk.   Thank you.   Mr. Bucshon votes aye.  
6571           Mr. Mullin?  
6572           \*Mr. Mullin.   Yes.  
6573           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Mullin votes aye.  
6574           Mr. Hudson?  
6575           \*Mr. Hudson.   Hudson, North Carolina, votes aye.  
6576           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Hudson votes aye.  
6577           Mr. Walberg?  
6578           \*Mr. Walberg.   Walberg of Michigan votes aye.  
6579           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Walberg votes aye.  
6580           Mr. Carter?  
6581           \*Mr. Carter.   Carter from Georgia votes aye.  
6582           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Carter votes aye.  
6583           Mr. Duncan?

6584           \*Mr. Duncan.   Mr. Duncan votes aye.  
6585           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Duncan votes aye.  
6586           Mr. Palmer?  
6587           \*Mr. Palmer.   [Inaudible.]  
6588           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Palmer votes aye.  
6589           Mr. Dunn?  
6590           \*Mr. Dunn.   Dunn from Florida votes aye.  
6591           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Dunn votes aye.  
6592           Mr. Curtis?  
6593           \*Mr. Curtis.   Curtis votes aye.  
6594           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Curtis votes aye.  
6595           Mrs. Lesko?  
6596           \*Mrs. Lesko.   Lesko from Arizona votes aye.  
6597           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Lesko votes aye.  
6598           Mr. Pence?  
6599           \*Mr. Pence.   Pence votes aye.  
6600           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Pence votes aye.  
6601           Mr. Crenshaw?  
6602           \*Mr. Crenshaw.   Crenshaw votes aye.  
6603           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Crenshaw, can you please repeat your  
6604   vote?  
6605           \*Mr. Crenshaw.   Crenshaw votes aye.  
6606           \*The Clerk.   Thank you.   Mr. Crenshaw votes aye.  
6607           Mr. Joyce?  
6608           \*Mr. Joyce.   Joyce from Pennsylvania votes aye.



6609           \*The Clerk. Mr. Joyce votes aye.  
6610           Mr. Armstrong?  
6611           \*Mr. Armstrong. Armstrong votes yes.  
6612           \*The Clerk. Mr. Armstrong votes aye.  
6613           Mr. Pallone?  
6614           \*The Chairman. Pallone from New Jersey votes no.  
6615           \*The Clerk. Mr. Pallone votes no.  
6616           \*The Chairman. Do we have members --  
6617           \*Mr. Sarbanes. Mr. Chairman, how am I recorded?  
6618           \*The Chairman. Mr. Sarbanes is not recorded.  
6619           \*Mr. Sarbanes. Sarbanes votes no.  
6620           \*The Clerk. Mr. Sarbanes votes no.  
6621           \*The Chairman. Mr. Burgess?  
6622           \*The Clerk. Mr. Burgess isn't recorded.  
6623           \*The Chairman. Do you want to wait for him?  
6624           \*The Clerk. Mrs. Rodgers is not recorded, as well.  
6625           \*Mrs. Rodgers. Thank you. Mrs. Rodgers votes aye.  
6626           \*The Clerk. Mrs. Rodgers votes aye.  
6627           \*The Chairman. Just wait a minute, we will check on  
6628           Burgess.  
6629           [Pause.]  
6630           \*The Chairman. Is he the only one left?  
6631           \*The Clerk. Yes, sir.  
6632           [Pause.]  
6633           \*Mrs. Rodgers. I got voicemail. Okay, go ahead.

6634           \*The Chairman. All right. We are not getting him,  
6635 let's -- the clerk will report the tally.

6636           \*The Clerk. On that vote, Mr. Chairman, the yeas were  
6637 25, and the nays were 32.

6638           \*The Chairman. And this is the Lesko amendment. So the  
6639 vote is 25 ayes to 32 noes. The Lesko amendment is not  
6640 agreed to.

6641           Are there further amendments to the Tonko substitute?

6642           \*Mr. Latta. Mr. Chairman?

6643           \*The Chairman. Mr. Latta is -- well, Mr. Latta, what is  
6644 the amendment?

6645           \*Mr. Latta. Yes, it is Latta\_02.

6646           \*The Chairman. Does the clerk have that?

6647           \*The Clerk. Yes, sir.

6648           \*The Chairman. All right. The clerk will report the  
6649 Latta amendment

6650           \*The Clerk. Amendment to Subtitle A, offered by Mr.  
6651 Latta of Ohio.

6652           \*The Chairman. Without objection, the reading of the  
6653 amendment will be dispensed with.

6654           [The amendment of Mr. Latta follows:]

6655

6656           \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

6657

6658           \*The Chairman. And the gentleman from Ohio is  
6659 recognized for five minutes.

6660           \*Mr. Latta. Well, thank you, Mr. Chairman. And my  
6661 amendment would require the administrator of the  
6662 Environmental Protection Agency to conduct a study to  
6663 determine the likelihood of increased national average  
6664 heating costs during the winter months projected over 10  
6665 years, if the methane fee established by the bill --

6666           [Audio malfunction.]

6667           \*Mr. Latta. -- could tell you that implementing the --  
6668 of the natural gas tax --

6669           [Audio malfunction.]

6670           \*Mr. Latta. -- industry will inevitably result in  
6671 higher energy costs for American consumers.

6672           Energy sources like natural gas are some of the most  
6673 reliable in providing heat and electricity to households  
6674 across the country. In fact, according to the Energy  
6675 Information Administration, about half the homes in the  
6676 United States use natural gas for heating. Because of the  
6677 importance of natural gas to keep Americans warm, and the  
6678 lights on during the coldest months of the year, it is  
6679 essential that there is transparency in how this fee will  
6680 impact their wallets.

6681           If the majority is interested in transparency and  
6682 gaining an understanding of how these proposals will impact

6683 everyday Americans, they should join me in adopting this  
6684 amendment.

6685 So, Mr. Chairman, at this time I am going to withdraw  
6686 the amendment, but I think it is absolutely essential that we  
6687 look at this in the future, as to how this will affect  
6688 Americans. So I withdraw the amendment. Thank you.

6689 \*The Chairman. Mr. Latta has asked unanimous consent to  
6690 withdraw his amendment.

6691 Without objection, so ordered.

6692 Do we have further amendments to --

6693 \*Mrs. Rodgers. Yes, I do.

6694 \*The Chairman. Mrs. Rodgers has an amendment at the  
6695 desk.

6696 \*Mrs. Rodgers. Yes.

6697 \*The Chairman. Do you --

6698 \*Mrs. Rodgers. Inflation --

6699 \*The Clerk. What is the title?

6700 \*The Chairman. Inflation to Title A.

6701 \*The Clerk. Sorry, can you repeat the title?

6702 \*The Chairman. It says, "Certification of Effect on  
6703 Inflation," "Section 3, certification of effect on  
6704 inflation."

6705 [Pause.]

6706 \*The Chairman. At the top. Well, you know, on the  
6707 left.

6708 [Pause.]

6709 \*The Clerk. Okay, I have it.

6710 \*The Chairman. Okay, the clerk will report the  
6711 amendment.

6712 \*The Clerk. The amendment to Subtitle A, offered by  
6713 Mrs. Rodgers of Washington.

6714 \*The Chairman. Without objection, the reading of the  
6715 amendment will be dispensed with.

6716 [The amendment of Mrs. Rodgers follows:]

6717

6718 \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

6719

6720           \*Mr. Tonko. Mr. Chair, I reserve a point of order on  
6721 the amendment.

6722           \*The Chairman. Mr. Tonko reserves a point of order, and  
6723 the ranking member is recognized for five minutes.

6724           \*Mrs. Rodgers. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to  
6725 strike the last word.

6726           \*The Chairman. The gentlewoman is recognized.

6727           \*Mrs. Rodgers. This amendment is simple. It prevents  
6728 any of the reckless spending -- the almost \$40 billion in  
6729 reckless spending from the subtitle -- from being expended  
6730 until the EPA administrator certifies to Congress that it  
6731 will not lead to a further increase in inflation for energy  
6732 prices.

6733           This proposal has already dramatically increased costs  
6734 on Americans. The spending that we have -- that the majority  
6735 has already expended recently has already caused a dramatic  
6736 increase on costs for Americans. It is the highest in a  
6737 decade. Gas prices in my home state of Washington have  
6738 increased 70 percent over the last year. The consumer price  
6739 index for all energy prices and costs have increased almost  
6740 25 percent.

6741           The irresponsible taxes and the slush funds in this  
6742 subtitle will make things even worse. Every subtitle of this  
6743 reckless tax-and-spending spree is going to burden American  
6744 families with even more -- making more costs, making energy,

6745 medical care, food, transportation, and everyday household  
6746 goods unaffordable.

6747         This shouldn't be a partisan issue. Last year I joined  
6748 with several of my Republican and Democrat colleagues,  
6749 including several members of this committee, in sending a  
6750 letter to Speaker Pelosi and Leader McCarthy, asking them to  
6751 address the fiscal health of our nation, and bring our out-  
6752 of-control spending under control.

6753         I would like to ask unanimous consent to enter that  
6754 letter into the record.

6755         \*The Chairman. Without objection, so ordered.

6756         [The information follows:]

6757

6758         \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

6759

6760           \*Mrs. Rodgers. Thank you. I urge support of this  
6761 amendment to save Americans from rampant inflation, and I  
6762 yield back.

6763           \*The Chairman. The gentlewoman yields back. Ms. Castor  
6764 is recognized for five minutes.

6765           \*Ms. Castor. I move to strike the last word to speak in  
6766 opposition --

6767           \*The Chairman. The gentlewoman is recognized.

6768           \*Ms. Castor. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

6769           Members, this amendment is another attempt to delay the  
6770 much-needed investments of the Build Back Better package.  
6771 This amendment would delay investments to fight the climate  
6772 crisis, and reduce air pollution, and protect the public  
6773 health.

6774           And when you zoom out and look at the big picture now,  
6775 we know that the climate crisis is raising costs  
6776 exponentially on our neighbors, on our businesses, and we  
6777 just don't have any time to waste any longer.

6778           There is another very important aspect of the -- this  
6779 methane fee that goes after the waste. Remember, methane is  
6780 the downstream segment of fossil fuel. It is a significant  
6781 contributor to the climate crisis. It happens as part of  
6782 refining, transmission, storage, distribution, the methane  
6783 leaks, and flaring. So what we are trying to do, as part of  
6784 the methane fee, is to reduce the waste.



6785           Now, there was a very important study done by the  
6786 Environmental Defense Fund that said this isn't just an  
6787 important tool to fight the climate crisis. This can be an  
6788 enormous job creator, as well. They highlight the fact that  
6789 there are about 200 businesses already across America that  
6790 are in the methane mitigation business. These are the  
6791 businesses that are providing products and services to help  
6792 the fossil fuel companies reduce waste and plug leaks.

6793           Remember, methane is a highly potent greenhouse gas. It  
6794 is responsible for a huge chunk of warming. So here is an  
6795 opportunity for us to get a win-win-win. We are going to  
6796 create jobs doing it. We are going to protect the  
6797 environment. We are going to save money all through reducing  
6798 waste associated with pollution.

6799           So I urge my colleagues to vote no on this amendment.

6800           \*The Chairman. I thank the gentlewoman. We are on the  
6801 Rodgers amendment. Does anyone else want to speak on this?

6802           \*Voice. Latta has his hand raised.

6803           \*The Chairman. Oh, Mr. Latta. Is he more senior -- oh,  
6804 Mr. Latta is recognized for five minutes.

6805           \*Mr. Latta. I beg your pardon, Mr. Chairman, I just  
6806 took my hand down.

6807           \*The Chairman. Okay. Mr. Pence is recognized for five  
6808 minutes.

6809           \*Mr. Pence. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to

6810 strike last word.

6811 I support the McMorris Rodgers amendment for some  
6812 comments I made earlier. In the State of Indiana our fuel  
6813 prices are up 80 percent. This is a good idea. We need to  
6814 take a look at this. We have got to protect the consumers  
6815 out across this country. And this bill, the overall bill,  
6816 does not do that.

6817 With that I yield some time to Congressman Joyce.

6818 \*Mr. Joyce. I ask that the member yields time to me.

6819 I move to strike the last word.

6820 Actions have results. This harmful tax bill will cost  
6821 Americans. It will cost all Americans who are already seeing  
6822 huge increases in energy costs.

6823 Again, all Americans, not just high-earning Americans,  
6824 all Americans will be affected. The results of this damaging  
6825 tax bill will have continued results to increase the  
6826 acceleration that we are already seeing in inflation.

6827 I encourage my colleagues across the aisle to join with  
6828 me and vote in favor of this amendment.

6829 Thank you, and I yield.

6830 \*Mr. Pence. I yield back.

6831 \*The Chairman. I don't think we have a Democrat.

6832 Mr. Curtis?

6833 We do?

6834 \*Mrs. Lesko. Mr. Chairman?

6835           \*The Chairman. Yes?

6836           \*Mrs. Lesko. Oh, I am sorry. I just want to make sure  
6837 you know that I wanted to speak in whatever order you are  
6838 ready for me to speak --

6839           \*The Chairman. All right. Is Mr. Curtis -- I have  
6840 Curtis, Lesko, Crenshaw. Can we go in that order?

6841           Mr. Curtis?

6842           \*Mr. Curtis. Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman. My -- I  
6843 move to --

6844           \*The Chairman. The gentleman is recognized.

6845           \*Mr. Curtis. I move to strike the last word.

6846           \*The Chairman. The gentleman --

6847           \*Mr. Curtis. I rise in --

6848           \*The Chairman. -- is recognized.

6849           \*Mr. Curtis. Thank you. I rise in support of Leader  
6850 Rodgers's amendment to prevent this subtitle from going into  
6851 effect until it is confirmed that it will not contribute to  
6852 an increase in the consumer price index.

6853           In Utah the price of used cars is up 55 percent on an  
6854 annualized basis, food prices are up 6.2 percent, and Utah  
6855 residents are paying 70 percent higher gas prices. Utah has  
6856 some of the best infrastructure in the country, and we have  
6857 done it with a disproportionately low level of Federal funds.  
6858 Utah has a balanced budget, but the Federal government is  
6859 nearly 29 trillion in debt. Utahns feel our infrastructure

6860 crisis is not a social crisis, but a fiscal infrastructure  
6861 crisis. How is it we can't see the fiscal infrastructure  
6862 crisis right in front of us, exasperated by crippling  
6863 inflation and Federal spending?

6864       My constituents would like me to ask, if your states  
6865 need an infrastructure investment bill, why don't you pass  
6866 one at the state level? Don't put Utahns in debt, devalue  
6867 their retirements, and raise their cost of living because  
6868 your state has put off difficult choices.

6869       It is not just Utahns inflation hurts. Everybody,  
6870 especially those on fixed and low incomes. Instead of  
6871 printing money and going further into debt, we should be  
6872 pushing policies that allow individuals to get back to work,  
6873 reduce reliance on the government. Utah has succeeded at  
6874 this, and currently enjoys a 2.6 percent unemployment rate.

6875       This spending bill is irresponsible, and I urge my  
6876 colleagues to consider the impacts this bill will have on  
6877 inflation. I urge my colleagues to support Leader Rodgers's  
6878 amendment.

6879       I yield my time.

6880       \*The Chairman. Thank you. Mr. Soto is recognized for  
6881 five minutes.

6882       \*Mr. Soto. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

6883       We are in the midst of a pandemic still. We passed the  
6884 CARES Act. All of you voted for it. We passed the CARES Act

6885 supplemental. Many of you voted for it. And we passed the  
6886 American Rescue Act. And what did we do? We avoided  
6887 another Great Recession, like we saw in 2010, and we provided  
6888 enough funds to battle the pandemic.

6889 Also, due to the pandemic, supply chains are slower  
6890 right now. Both those things have put some pressure on  
6891 prices. But the choice remains. Would you rather have an  
6892 underfunded pandemic response and another Great Recession, or  
6893 have some pressure on prices? To me and my Main Street back  
6894 in Kissimmee, Florida, the answer is pretty clear. We had to  
6895 go big to make sure we could respond to the pandemic, go big  
6896 to make sure we avoid a recession.

6897 And you could try to politicize prices all you want, but  
6898 that was the choice that we faced, and we would do it again  
6899 and again and again to make sure that we were responding to  
6900 the pandemic in a way that will make us stronger as we get  
6901 out of it.

6902 \*The Chairman. The gentleman yields back. Mrs. Lesko  
6903 is recognized for five minutes.

6904 \*Mrs. Lesko. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to strike  
6905 the last word.

6906 \*The Chairman. The gentlewoman is recognized.

6907 \*Mrs. Lesko. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I rise in  
6908 support of Mrs. Rodgers's amendment that says that no funds  
6909 will be used if it leads to inflation.

6910           We are already seeing massive inflation. Representative  
6911 Soto said we are seeing some pressure on prices. Well, in  
6912 Arizona, we are seeing a lot of upward pressure on prices.

6913           I mean, the cost of used cars has gone up 55 percent,  
6914 and that is a big deal because, in a lot of places, you can't  
6915 even buy a new car right now. They are just none to be  
6916 found, or very few to be found. And they are on back order,  
6917 so people have to buy used cars. The prices are up 55  
6918 percent. The price of food, when people go to the grocery  
6919 store, is up 6.2 percent since last year, and the price for  
6920 gasoline has gone up 70 percent in Arizona in the last year.

6921           And then, all of this spending that we have been doing  
6922 has added to Arizona taxpayers \$380 billion more in just the  
6923 last year in Federal debt. This is unsustainable. We cannot  
6924 continue to spend money on and on without any responsibility.

6925           And you know, when others, including Representative  
6926 Soto, said, well, we need to continue spending this for the  
6927 pandemic, he is right. During the middle of the pandemic, at  
6928 the beginning, I supported helping workers and businesses  
6929 that the government put out of business because of shutdowns.  
6930 But now there is businesses clamoring. They are clamoring  
6931 for workers. They cannot find the workers.

6932           And so clearly, it is time for the economy to move on,  
6933 and for government to get out of the way and stop subsidizing  
6934 everybody, and just let people get back to work and the

6935 economy to get back.

6936 And so I yield back, and I support the Mrs. Rodgers  
6937 amendment. I yield back. Thank you.

6938 \*The Chairman. Thank you. Does anyone else -- Mr.  
6939 Crenshaw. Mr. Crenshaw is recognized for five minutes.

6940 \*Mr. Crenshaw. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last  
6941 word, and speak in support of this amendment.

6942 The reason I speak in support of this amendment, like  
6943 all the other amendments that have been offered, is because  
6944 it reveals the weaknesses in critical reasoning that are  
6945 occurring in a lot of this policy.

6946 And what I mean by that is a complete lack of assessment  
6947 of the costs and benefits of what we are doing. There seems  
6948 to be an appetite to impose enormous costs in American  
6949 society. And no question of what benefits you might derive  
6950 from those costs.

6951 You know, if we want to listen to the science, the UN  
6952 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change says that, by the  
6953 year 2100, we can expect to have 450 percent more global GDP  
6954 than we do now. With the cost of climate change, it might be  
6955 closer to 434 percent. So there is a cost, but it is not the  
6956 cost that I keep hearing from a lot of my colleagues. It is  
6957 not even close, actually.

6958 And by the way, that is a conservative estimate. It  
6959 doesn't take into account new technological innovations that

6960 would allow us to actually adapt to them.

6961         So we have to actually be reasonable about the costs and  
6962 the benefits in what we are doing. And this amendment is  
6963 important, because this will impose enormous costs on our  
6964 society that is already reeling from hyperinflation. And for  
6965 what? What do we get out of that?

6966         We are not exactly spending it on expansive research and  
6967 development, not to spur public and private investment, but  
6968 to actually just fund costly mandates that do nothing for the  
6969 environment. It probably makes matters worse. In fact,  
6970 every single program in here, from funding for clean, heavy-  
6971 duty vehicles, to port emissions, to the Environmental  
6972 Product Declaration Assistance, it actually funds a failed  
6973 California mandate.

6974         Honestly, this division could read something like a  
6975 reimbursement list from the Governor of California and the  
6976 California Air Resource Board. For whatever reason, the  
6977 majority is trying to institute nationwide the only mandate  
6978 in America for green construction requirements, the only  
6979 mandate in America for zero-emission delivery trucks, and  
6980 mandates on small fishing boats in the bays of San Diego.

6981         Since Californians are tired of actually paying for  
6982 these mandates, now Democrats want to foot every American  
6983 taxpayer with the bill. Not only are they trying to put  
6984 these failed policies on everyone, but they are paving the



6985 way for Federal Government to come into America's home and  
6986 tell them what refrigerator to own, preventing people from  
6987 using natural gas to heat a pot of water. It sounds far  
6988 fetched, but President Biden's National Climate Advisor, Gina  
6989 McCarthy, proposed doing just that in the Clean Power Plan  
6990 when she ran EPA.

6991         It is not unfair to say that California -- that the  
6992 California model is not working. They are paying higher  
6993 electricity prices than the rest of America, while also  
6994 having it shut off or throttled down constantly. Higher gas  
6995 prices than the rest of America, as well, and they are  
6996 getting sued by civil rights groups for their racist  
6997 environmental policies. And for all of California's  
6998 environmentalism through government mandates, California has  
6999 7 of the 10 most polluted cities in America, according to  
7000 American Lung Association. It is almost like top-down  
7001 government just doesn't work.

7002         So I ask this committee, why would we double down on  
7003 these failed policies? Is the air in California  
7004 significantly better than what I am breathing in Texas?  
7005 Absolutely not, and certainly not according to the EPA's  
7006 standards. And I don't want my constituents to be forced to  
7007 subsidize California's poor environmental practices, or  
7008 import their high gas prices, especially when we also have  
7009 inflation to deal with. Instead of looking for real

7010 solutions to protect the environment, we are going to double  
7011 down on funding California's failed mandates.

7012 And I have to say I am very disappointed in my Texas  
7013 colleagues for supporting some of these measures. You know  
7014 your constituents are going to be hurt by this. You  
7015 shouldn't be supporting these, and I can't believe you are  
7016 doing it with a straight face.

7017 Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I yield back.

7018 \*The Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Crenshaw.

7019 Mr. Walberg, you put your hand up. Oh, Peter. No? Is  
7020 there a Democrat?

7021 All right, we -- Mr. Walberg is recognized for five  
7022 minutes.

7023 \*Mr. Walberg. Strike the last word to support the  
7024 ranking member's --

7025 \*The Chairman. The gentleman is recognized.

7026 \*Mr. Walberg. Thank you. I think it is an absolutely  
7027 necessary amendment, especially since it seems like we are  
7028 really unwilling to look at the continuing challenge, the tax  
7029 that we are putting on society itself.

7030 You know, I -- my Republican colleagues in Michigan, as  
7031 well as, I would hope, some of my Democrat colleagues, would  
7032 be very concerned about doing something like what we are  
7033 attempting to do, and increasing the debt. You know, I look  
7034 at the figures, and I see additional debt coming from -- this

7035 approach today would be \$540 billion. The price of used cars  
7036 up 57 percent, the price of food 6.3 percent, price of gas up  
7037 80 percent. All of that speaks, of course, to the auto  
7038 industry, which is Michigan. This is the motor capital of  
7039 the world. And yet these costs continue to go on.

7040         And for my friend and colleague from Florida to say that  
7041 we had to do all of this in order not to melt down, how do we  
7042 know that? Certainly, we had to do the CARES Act. Most of  
7043 us did that for a short term. We knew that there was  
7044 potential of our citizens understanding the science, hearing  
7045 the best reasoning, would do what was necessary. But we have  
7046 continued to spend.

7047         And if we continue to do this, I mean, talking about  
7048 Florida, additional debt, \$1.2 trillion, the price of used  
7049 cars up 56 percent, the price of food up 4.8 percent, the  
7050 price of gas up 74 percent. Do you really think that the  
7051 majority of constituents want to see that continue?

7052         I mean, if we are intent on doing what we shouldn't be  
7053 doing here -- I will admit that is where I am coming from --  
7054 yet we ought at least be willing to support an amendment like  
7055 this, that takes a look at reason and says if, indeed, this  
7056 continues to promote this tax, which is called inflation --  
7057 and I would certainly disagree with one of my former  
7058 colleagues, who seemed to indicate that inflation cures  
7059 climate change. I don't get that.

7060           So I would ask my colleagues to support this amendment,  
7061   to think rationally about what we are doing to the future of  
7062   our country, as well as the present, support this amendment.  
7063   And I yield back.

7064           \*Mr. Scalise.   Would the gentleman yield?

7065           \*Mr. Walberg.   Who am I yielding to?

7066           \*Mr. Scalise.   This is Congressman Scalise.

7067           \*Mr. Walberg.   I would certainly yield to Congressman  
7068   Scalise.

7069           \*Mr. Scalise.   I thank my friend from Michigan for  
7070   yielding.   And I guess the question -- how much more  
7071   inflation does the majority party want to impose on families?

7072           I mean, just in the last nine months since President  
7073   Biden took office, inflation has become the biggest concern  
7074   that people express, because they are paying more for  
7075   everything.   They are paying more for gasoline, as my  
7076   colleagues pointed out.   In some cases over 50 percent more.  
7077   They are paying more when they go to the grocery store.   They  
7078   want to buy products.

7079           If you want to get a new dishwasher, you are probably  
7080   waiting six months because the Federal Government, for the  
7081   last six, nine months, has been paying people not to work.  
7082   Every small business owner is looking for workers, and they  
7083   can't find them, because government is paying people not to  
7084   work.   They are paying them more than what they were making

7085 when they weren't working. They are telling them they don't  
7086 even have to pay their rent. Inflation is through the roof.  
7087 And then you are going to add tax hikes on top of that?

7088 I want to strongly support my colleague, the ranking  
7089 member's amendment, because what Mrs. McMorris Rodgers is  
7090 saying is the same thing a lot of families are saying:  
7091 enough with all the spending, enough with all the taxes,  
7092 enough with all the inflation. Look, this tax that she is  
7093 suspending is only one of the many taxes in this package.  
7094 Our committee isn't looking at all of the other taxes.

7095 You know, you go look at what a corporate rate increase  
7096 will do to kill jobs in America, to raise costs on families  
7097 here. All you are doing here, with increasing American  
7098 natural gas, you are just shipping more jobs to China.

7099 Go look at what China emits to make the same -- let's  
7100 say you are making steel in Pennsylvania. You should want to  
7101 make more steel in Pennsylvania, because if they make that  
7102 steel in China they are emitting five times more carbon,  
7103 because they are exempted from all of these crazy, radical  
7104 ideas. They just are. It is a fact. So if carbon emissions  
7105 are what you are worried about, you should be getting John  
7106 Kerry, the climate czar, instead of flying around the world  
7107 lecturing on how bad America is, he should be flying to China  
7108 and telling them to actually get control of their environment  
7109 like we have gotten control of ours.

7110           We have been reducing emissions in America through smart  
7111   technology, and then you wreck our economy and send those  
7112   jobs somewhere else?   They are going to emit more carbon.  
7113   It all ends up in the same place.

7114           I think people get this.   They just want to spend money.  
7115   That is why you all want this tax.   It is to spend more  
7116   money.   But the money, the spending, is what is driving  
7117   inflation already.   You add more and more spending, more  
7118   taxes, you will only get even more inflation, and families  
7119   have had enough.   They are fed up.

7120           Let's at least stop, put a pause on the spending and on  
7121   the inflation.

7122           I support this amendment, and I yield back the balance  
7123   of my time.

7124           \*Mr. Walberg.   I yield back.

7125           \*The Chairman.   The gentleman -- Mr. Walberg, are you  
7126   yielding back?

7127           \*Mr. Walberg.   I am yielding back.

7128           \*The Chairman.   Yes, okay.   So we are on the Rodgers  
7129   amendment.   Does anyone else want to speak on this?

7130           Mr. Carter is recognized for five minutes.

7131           \*Mr. Carter.   Mr. Chairman, I move to strike last word.

7132           \*The Chairman.   You are recognized.

7133           \*Mr. Carter.   Mr. Chairman, many of my colleagues have  
7134   hit on this point, but I am glad Ranking Member Rodgers has

7135 introduced this amendment, because inflation is such a big  
7136 issue.

7137 Inflation is nothing more than taxation, and it has gone  
7138 up every month of Joe Biden's presidency. Producer price  
7139 index jumped 8.3 percent, year over year, according to the  
7140 Labor Department in August, a new record high. These numbers  
7141 came just a week after the August jobs report fell well short  
7142 of economists' expectations. The U.S. economy added only  
7143 235,000 thousand jobs in August, compared to an expected  
7144 720,000.

7145 This is an enormous disappointment, especially in light  
7146 of the trillions of dollars that Democrats have forced  
7147 through Congress. What was the result? This is the weakest  
7148 jobs report of Joe Biden's presidency: 8.4 million Americans  
7149 remained unemployed in August, 8.4 million. Yet there are  
7150 10.5 million job openings. The number of unfilled job  
7151 openings has remained far above the 48-year historical  
7152 average of 22 percent.

7153 Instead of encouraging employment, Democrats and the  
7154 Biden Administration are doing everything they can to create  
7155 cradle-to-grave entitlements that will cost trillions of  
7156 dollars, and keep Americans on the sidelines. This bill will  
7157 spend an additional \$3.5 trillion on policies that will kill  
7158 American jobs, increase taxes, and make inflation even worse.  
7159 The ranking member's amendment would be a small fix to this

7160 bill to ensure Americans do not face further costs.

7161 Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and I yield back.

7162 \*The Chairman. Does anyone else want to speak?

7163 All right. Oh, yes, Mr. Palmer is recognized for five  
7164 minutes.

7165 \*Mr. Palmer. I move to strike the last word, and I  
7166 speak in support of this amendment.

7167 \*The Chairman. The gentleman is recognized.

7168 \*Mr. Palmer. I would like to point out that the Federal  
7169 Reserve says they don't expect higher inflation to stick  
7170 around, once more people are back to work. But the socialist  
7171 Democrat policies that have already been implemented, and  
7172 that will be included in this bill, are paying people not to  
7173 work. So I don't think we can expect inflation to come down,  
7174 according to what the Fed says.

7175 I also want to point out that, as I have already pointed  
7176 out, that energy costs are driving inflation. Energy costs  
7177 are in every product and service American families utilize.  
7178 They are buried in the cost of the product and service, and  
7179 it is increasing cost that has a much bigger impact,  
7180 disproportionately so on lower-income families.

7181 Inflation is the highest in over a decade, and it is the  
7182 highest increase in the Consumer Price Index in 29 years.  
7183 Now, one of my colleagues said that inflation and cost have  
7184 been going up every year because of the climate crisis. I



7185 just want to point out that the Consumer Price Index has been  
7186 below -- at or below three percent every year, all the way  
7187 back to 1992, until this year.

7188 And I do agree that there is a crisis that is driving  
7189 this jump in the Consumer Price Index and inflation. It is  
7190 the Biden Administration crisis, along with the crisis  
7191 created by the socialist Democrats, who are continuing to try  
7192 to implement energy policy that will be devastating to the  
7193 average family in the United States. That is -- it is beyond  
7194 me.

7195 I know my colleagues are very intelligent people. I  
7196 have a high regard for the intelligence that they have, but  
7197 it is beyond me that whatever mathematical formulas they are  
7198 using doesn't lead them to support some of the amendments  
7199 that have been offered here, because all of us are paying  
7200 higher prices. And a lot of the people I represent, all of  
7201 the people I represent, are paying higher prices. And we are  
7202 hurting people with these policies.

7203 So I think this is an amendment that, on the surface,  
7204 every Member of Congress ought to support.

7205 With that, I yield back.

7206 \*The Chairman. Okay, anyone else?

7207 All right, so we are on the Rodgers amendment.

7208 You want a recorded vote?

7209 \*Mrs. Rodgers. Yes, please.

7210           \*The Chairman. And a recorded vote is ordered.

7211           \*Voice. I think Mrs. Dingell wanted to talk.

7212           \*The Chairman. Mrs. Dingell, is your hand up for this?

7213           \*Mr. Rush. Still voting, I am in the middle --

7214           \*The Chairman. Bobby, are you looking to speak, or are  
7215 you just -- all right, let me just make sure.

7216           Did Mrs. Dingell or Ms. DeGette want to speak on this?

7217 Mrs. Dingell, would you -- I am sorry, you are recognized for  
7218 five minutes.

7219           \*Mrs. Dingell. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to  
7220 strike the last word, and speak in opposition to this  
7221 amendment.

7222           \*The Chairman. The gentlewoman is recognized.

7223           \*Mrs. Dingell. This amendment is nothing more than  
7224 another political stunt that would delay much-needed  
7225 investments in this bill.

7226           This amendment would delay investments to fight climate  
7227 change, reduce air pollution, and protect public health,  
7228 something that I think we all feel pretty desperate about  
7229 right now, pending a certification from EPA that the  
7230 provisions will not lead to inflation. We -- that is not  
7231 what we need right now.

7232           Inflation is a serious concern. I share it, like  
7233 everybody, but every -- this Administration is taking it very  
7234 seriously, and they are addressing it very seriously.

7235           Recent indicators have shown that inflation is slowing,  
7236   and experts believe that the inflation we are seeing is  
7237   transitory, as we go through this unprecedented recovery.  
7238   And like many of you, I spend a lot of time with economists,  
7239   because I am worried about the auto industry. Let me be  
7240   clear, this bill is an important part of that recovery. The  
7241   investments in this bill will support our economic recovery  
7242   and the revitalization of our infrastructure. A stable  
7243   economy supports stable prices.

7244           My colleagues are concerned about passing costs along to  
7245   future generations? Then maybe we need to get serious about  
7246   addressing climate change and supporting the investments in  
7247   this bill.

7248           My district cannot handle -- when they hear a  
7249   thunderstorm, they go into a total state of panic. I want to  
7250   get them to stop panicking. The climate crisis is here. The  
7251   costs are unsustainable, and it is only going to get worse.

7252           I urge my colleagues to vote against these continued  
7253   efforts to filibuster the implementation of these much-needed  
7254   programs, and to support the underlining (sic) bill.

7255           I yield back, Mr. Chairman.

7256           \*The Chairman. Thank you. Ms. DeGette, did you -- no?

7257           \*Ms. DeGette. No, I am just agreeing.

7258           \*The Chairman. Mr. Joyce?

7259           \*Ms. DeGette. I am just agreeing with Mrs. Dingell.

7260           \*The Chairman. You are recognized for five minutes.

7261           \*Mr. Joyce. Mr. Chairman, I move to --

7262           \*The Chairman. Who -- all right, Mr. Joyce is  
7263 recognized.

7264           \*Mr. Joyce. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last  
7265 word. I would like to yield my time to Mr. Palmer, my  
7266 colleague from Alabama.

7267           \*Mr. Palmer. I thank the gentleman for yielding, and I  
7268 just want to point out -- and again, I don't know why this is  
7269 not obvious -- inflation is not transitory if energy costs  
7270 keep going up, and the people will not go back to work. It  
7271 is just not going to happen.

7272           And people, my colleagues keep bringing up air  
7273 pollution. I just want to point out that, since 1980, our  
7274 GDP has gone up over 690 percent. Vehicle miles traveled has  
7275 gone up 112 percent. Population has gone up over 30 percent.  
7276 Energy consumption is up over 22 percent. But I want to just  
7277 share with you what has happened in emissions, and the key  
7278 criteria gases that the EPA tracked since 1980. Carbon  
7279 monoxide is down 81 percent. Lead is down 98 percent.  
7280 Nitrogen dioxide, it is down 67 percent. Ozone is down 33  
7281 percent. Particulate matter emissions are down 64 percent,  
7282 and sulfur dioxide is down 93 percent. We have made  
7283 tremendous progress in cleaning up our environment and our  
7284 emissions. These are EPA numbers that I want to point out.

7285           I would also like to point out how policies impact  
7286 things. Here is -- I have a Gallup report here entitled,  
7287 "American Entrepreneurship: Dead or Alive"? Prior to the  
7288 Obama-Biden Administration, there were over 100,000 more  
7289 businesses starting up, instead of closing. That is the  
7290 differential, 100,000 more business startups than there were  
7291 business closures. By 2014, after 6 years of the Obama-Biden  
7292 Administration, we are at 70,000 more business closures than  
7293 startups.

7294           So you want to talk about helping the economy, and  
7295 helping the average American? You need to take into account  
7296 how your policies impact people. And again, I go back to the  
7297 2009 stimulus package, and all the promises that were made.  
7298 That was an \$831 billion package. They predicted that it  
7299 would generate four percent economic growth. That didn't  
7300 happen. They -- it averaged about two percent. It actually  
7301 slowed to 1.5 percent in 2012. You had, at that time, Vice  
7302 President Joe Biden going around the country saying the  
7303 stimulus would usher in a summer of recovery. Eighteen  
7304 months later, after the passage of the bill, National Public  
7305 Radio acknowledged that the stimulus was a dud. It was  
7306 running a headline that said, "Recovery Summer Ends With an  
7307 Economic Pothole."

7308           That is where you are heading with this bill. He even  
7309 predicted -- Biden even predicted that the stimulus would

7310 create 250 to 500,000 new jobs per month. That didn't  
7311 happen.

7312 So, I mean, I know a lot of people think history is what  
7313 happened last week, but you need to go back and look at the  
7314 history of these policies, and try to learn from it.

7315 With that, Mr. Chairman, I happily yield back.

7316 \*The Chairman. The time is Mr. Joyce's.

7317 Do you want to say something?

7318 \*Mr. Joyce. Mr. Chair, I yield back.

7319 \*The Chairman. All right. Anyone else?

7320 Nobody else has their hand up virtually, right?

7321 All right. Then we are going to go to a vote on the  
7322 Rodgers amendment. The gentlewoman has asked for a recorded  
7323 vote. A recorded vote is ordered.

7324 \*Mr. Tonko. Mr. Chair

7325 \*The Chairman. Yes?

7326 \*Mr. Tonko. I withdraw my --

7327 \*The Chairman. Oh, I am sorry. Thank you for  
7328 withdrawing your point of order, Mr. Tonko.

7329 A recorded vote is ordered on the Rodgers amendment.  
7330 Those in favor of the amendment will say aye, those opposed  
7331 to the amendment will say no, and the clerk shall call the  
7332 roll.

7333 \*The Clerk. Mr. Rush?

7334 \*Mr. Rush. Rush votes no.

7335           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Rush votes no.  
7336           Ms. Eshoo?  
7337           \*Ms. Eshoo.   Eshoo of California votes no.  
7338           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Eshoo votes no.  
7339           Ms. DeGette?  
7340           \*Ms. DeGette.   DeGette votes no.  
7341           \*The Clerk.   Ms. DeGette votes no.  
7342           Mr. Doyle?  
7343           \*Mr. Doyle.   Doyle votes no.  
7344           \*The Chairman.   He is weakening.  
7345           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Doyle votes no.  
7346           Ms. Schakowsky?  
7347           \*Ms. Schakowsky.   Schakowsky votes no.  
7348           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Schakowsky votes no.  
7349           Mr. Butterfield?  
7350           \*Mr. Butterfield.   Butterfield votes no.  
7351           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Butterfield votes no.  
7352           Ms. Matsui?  
7353           \*Ms. Matsui.   Matsui of California votes no.  
7354           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Matsui votes no.  
7355           Ms. Castor?  
7356           [No response.]  
7357           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Sarbanes?  
7358           \*Mr. Sarbanes.   Sarbanes votes no.  
7359           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Sarbanes votes no.

7360 Mr. McNerney?  
7361 \*Mr. McNerney. McNerney votes no.  
7362 \*The Clerk. Mr. McNerney votes no.  
7363 Mr. Welch?  
7364 \*Mr. Welch. No.  
7365 \*The Clerk. Mr. Welch votes no.  
7366 Mr. Tonko?  
7367 \*Mr. Tonko. Tonko of New York votes no.  
7368 \*The Clerk. Mr. Tonko votes no.  
7369 Ms. Clarke?  
7370 \*Ms. Clarke. Clarke of New York votes no.  
7371 \*The Clerk. Ms. Clarke votes no.  
7372 Mr. Schrader?  
7373 \*Mr. Schrader. Schrader of Oregon votes no.  
7374 \*The Clerk. Mr. Schrader votes no.  
7375 Mr. Cardenas?  
7376 \*Mr. Cardenas. Cardenas, representing California, votes  
7377 no.  
7378 \*The Clerk. Mr. Cardenas votes no.  
7379 Mr. Ruiz?  
7380 \*Mr. Ruiz. Ruiz from California votes no.  
7381 \*The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz votes no.  
7382 Mr. Peters?  
7383 \*Mr. Peters. Peters votes no.  
7384 \*The Clerk. Mr. Peters votes no.



7385 Mrs. Dingell?  
7386 \*Mrs. Dingell. Dingell votes no.  
7387 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell votes no.  
7388 Mr. Veasey?  
7389 \*Mr. Veasey. Veasey votes no.  
7390 [Pause.]  
7391 \*Mr. Veasey. Veasey votes no.  
7392 \*The Clerk. Mr. Veasey votes no.  
7393 Ms. Kuster?  
7394 \*Ms. Kuster. Kuster votes no.  
7395 \*The Clerk. Ms. Kuster votes no.  
7396 Ms. Kelly?  
7397 \*Ms. Kelly. Kelly votes no.  
7398 \*The Clerk. Ms. Kelly votes no.  
7399 Ms. Barragan?  
7400 \*Ms. Barragan. Ms. Barragan votes no.  
7401 \*The Clerk. Ms. Barragan votes no.  
7402 Mr. McEachin?  
7403 \*Mr. McEachin. McEachin of Virginia votes no.  
7404 \*The Clerk. Mr. McEachin votes no.  
7405 Ms. Blunt Rochester?  
7406 \*Ms. Blunt Rochester. Blunt Rochester votes no.  
7407 \*The Clerk. Ms. Blunt Rochester votes no.  
7408 Mr. Soto?  
7409 \*Mr. Soto. Soto votes no.

7410           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Soto votes no.  
7411           Mr. O'Halleran?  
7412           \*Mr. O'Halleran.   O'Halleran votes no.  
7413           \*The Clerk.   Mr. O'Halleran votes no.  
7414           Miss Rice?  
7415           \*Miss Rice.   [Inaudible.]  
7416           \*The Clerk.   Miss Rice votes no.  
7417           Ms. Craig?  
7418           \*Ms. Craig.   Ms. Craig votes no.  
7419           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Craig votes no.  
7420           Ms. Schrier?  
7421           \*Ms. Schrier.   Schrier votes no.  
7422           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Schrier votes no.  
7423           Mrs. Trahan?  
7424           \*Mrs. Trahan.   Trahan votes no.  
7425           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Trahan votes no.  
7426           Mrs. Fletcher?  
7427           \*Mrs. Fletcher.   Fletcher votes no.  
7428           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Fletcher votes no.  
7429           Mrs. Rodgers?  
7430           \*Mrs. Rodgers.   [Inaudible.]  
7431           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Rodgers votes aye.  
7432           Mr. Upton?  
7433           \*Mr. Upton.   Upton votes aye.  
7434           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Upton votes aye.

7435 Mr. Burgess?

7436 [No response.]

7437 \*The Clerk. Mr. Scalise?

7438 \*Mr. Scalise. Scalise votes aye.

7439 \*The Clerk. Mr. Scalise votes aye.

7440 Mr. Latta?

7441 \*Mr. Latta. Latta of Ohio votes aye.

7442 \*The Clerk. Mr. Latta votes aye.

7443 Mr. Guthrie?

7444 [No response.]

7445 \*The Clerk. Mr. McKinley?

7446 \*Mr. McKinley. McKinley votes aye.

7447 \*The Clerk. Mr. McKinley votes aye.

7448 Mr. Kinzinger?

7449 \*Mr. Kinzinger. Kinzinger votes aye.

7450 \*The Clerk. Mr. Kinzinger votes aye.

7451 Mr. Griffith?

7452 \*Mr. Griffith. Aye.

7453 \*The Clerk. Mr. Griffith votes aye.

7454 Mr. Bilirakis?

7455 \*Mr. Bilirakis. [Inaudible.]

7456 \*The Clerk. Mr. Bilirakis votes aye.

7457 Mr. Johnson?

7458 \*Mr. Johnson. Johnson votes aye.

7459 \*The Clerk. Mr. Johnson votes aye.

7460 Mr. Long?

7461 \*Mr. Long. Long votes aye.

7462 \*The Clerk. Mr. Long votes aye.

7463 Mr. Bucshon?

7464 \*Mr. Bucshon. Bucshon from Indiana votes aye.

7465 \*The Clerk. Mr. Bucshon votes aye.

7466 Mr. Mullin?

7467 \*Mr. Mullin. Mullin votes yes.

7468 \*The Clerk. Mr. Mullin votes aye.

7469 Mr. Hudson?

7470 \*Mr. Hudson. Hudson of North Carolina votes aye.

7471 \*The Clerk. Mr. Hudson votes aye.

7472 Mr. Walberg?

7473 \*Mr. Walberg. Walberg votes aye.

7474 \*The Clerk. Mr. Walberg votes aye.

7475 Mr. Carter?

7476 \*Mr. Carter. Carter from Georgia votes aye.

7477 \*The Clerk. Mr. Carter votes aye.

7478 Mr. Duncan?

7479 \*Mr. Duncan. Mr. Duncan of South Carolina votes aye.

7480 \*The Clerk. Mr. Duncan votes aye.

7481 Mr. Palmer?

7482 \*Mr. Palmer. [Inaudible.]

7483 \*The Clerk. Mr. Palmer votes aye.

7484 Mr. Dunn?

7485           \*Mr. Dunn.   Mr. Dunn of Florida votes aye.  
7486           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Dunn votes aye.  
7487           Mr. Curtis?  
7488           \*Mr. Curtis.   Curtis votes aye.  
7489           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Curtis votes aye.  
7490           Mrs. Lesko?  
7491           \*Mrs. Lesko.   Lesko from Arizona votes aye.  
7492           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Lesko votes aye.  
7493           Mr. Pence?  
7494           \*Mr. Pence.   Pence from Indiana votes aye.  
7495           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Pence votes aye.  
7496           Mr. Crenshaw?  
7497           \*Mr. Crenshaw.   Crenshaw votes aye.  
7498           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Crenshaw votes aye.  
7499           Mr. Joyce?  
7500           \*Mr. Joyce.   Joyce from Pennsylvania votes aye.  
7501           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Joyce votes aye.  
7502           Mr. Armstrong?  
7503           \*Mr. Armstrong.   Armstrong votes yes.  
7504           \*The Clerk.   I am sorry, could you repeat your vote?  
7505           \*Mr. Armstrong.   Armstrong votes yes.  
7506           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Armstrong votes aye.  
7507           Mr. Pallone?  
7508           \*The Chairman.   Pallone from New Jersey votes no.  
7509           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Pallone votes no.

7510           \*The Chairman. Ms. Castor?

7511           \*Ms. Castor. Castor of Florida votes no.

7512           \*The Clerk. Ms. Castor votes no.

7513           \*The Chairman. Mr. Guthrie?

7514           \*Mr. Guthrie. Mr. Guthrie votes aye.

7515           \*The Clerk. Mr. Guthrie votes aye.

7516           \*The Chairman. Is anyone else who hasn't voted --

7517           \*The Clerk. Mr. Burgess is not recorded.

7518           \*The Chairman. Is he -- wait for him, or not? He is

7519 on?

7520           \*Voice. Do you see him on --

7521           \*The Chairman. Mr. Burgess?

7522           [Pause.]

7523           \*The Chairman. I don't see him, do you?

7524           All right, I guess we are going to move on. The clerk

7525 will report the tally. And this is on the Rodgers amendment.

7526           \*The Clerk. On that vote, Mr. Chairman, the yeas were

7527 32 and the nays were 25. Sorry --

7528           \*The Chairman. Wait a minute, it is the opposite,

7529 right?

7530           \*The Clerk. The opposite. The nays were 32 and the

7531 yeas were 25.

7532           \*The Chairman. The nays are 32 and the yeas are 25,

7533 correct?

7534           All right, so on the Rodgers amendment the vote is 25

7535 ayes to 32 noes, and the amendment is not agreed to.

7536 Do we have further amendments to the Tonko amendment in  
7537 the nature of a substitute?

7538 No further amendments?

7539 All right, then let's go to -- you want a recorded on  
7540 the ANS, or you don't --

7541 \*Mrs. Rodgers. No, we don't --

7542 \*The Chairman. Okay, so if there is no further debate  
7543 or amendments, we will proceed to a vote on the amendment in  
7544 the nature of a substitute to the committee print, Subtitle  
7545 A: Budget Reconciliation Legislative Recommendations  
7546 Relating to Air Pollution. And please unmute your -- well,  
7547 we have already done that.

7548 All those in favor of the amendment in the nature of a  
7549 substitute to the committee print, Subtitle A: Budget  
7550 Reconciliation Legislative Recommendations Relating to Air  
7551 Pollution, will signify by saying aye.

7552 All those opposed -- I am sorry, all those opposed will  
7553 signify by saying no.

7554 [Laughter.]

7555 \*The Chairman. In the opinion of the chair, the ayes  
7556 have it. Okay.

7557 Now, on final, though, you want a roll call, right?

7558 \*Mrs. Rodgers. Yes, yes.

7559 \*The Chairman. Okay. All right. So the amendment in

7560 the nature of a substitute to the committee print, Subtitle  
7561 A: Budget Reconciliation Legislative Recommendations  
7562 Relating to Air Pollution, is agreed to.

7563 Now we are going to go to the question on approval and  
7564 transmitting to the Committee on Budget, the committee print,  
7565 Subtitle A: Budget Reconciliation Legislative  
7566 Recommendations Relating to Air Pollution, as amended.

7567 I move the committee do now approve and transmit the  
7568 recommendations of this Committee, and all appropriate  
7569 accompanying material, including additional, supplemental,  
7570 minority, or dissenting views to the House Committee on  
7571 Budget in order to comply with the reconciliation directive  
7572 included in Section 2002 of the concurrent resolution on the  
7573 budget for fiscal year 2022, S.Con.Res. 14, and consistent  
7574 with section 310 of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment  
7575 Control Act of 1974.

7576 Okay, all those in favor of that will signify by saying  
7577 aye.

7578 But you want to have a -- okay, so -- no, no, we got to  
7579 do a recorded vote.

7580 A recorded vote is ordered. All those in favor will  
7581 signify by saying aye, those opposed will say no, and the  
7582 clerk shall call the roll. This is final passage of the air  
7583 pollution print, okay?

7584 Madam Clerk?



7585           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Rush?  
7586           \*Mr. Rush.   Rush votes aye.  
7587           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Rush votes aye.  
7588           Ms. Eshoo?  
7589           \*Ms. Eshoo.   Eshoo of California votes aye.  
7590           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Eshoo votes aye.  
7591           Ms. DeGette?  
7592           \*Ms. DeGette.   DeGette votes aye.  
7593           \*The Clerk.   Ms. DeGette votes aye.  
7594           Mr. Doyle?  
7595           \*Mr. Doyle.   Doyle votes yes.  
7596           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Doyle votes aye.  
7597           Ms. Schakowsky?  
7598           \*Ms. Schakowsky.   Aye.  
7599           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Schakowsky votes aye.  
7600           Mr. Butterfield?  
7601           [No response.]  
7602           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Matsui?  
7603           \*Ms. Matsui.   Matsui votes aye.  
7604           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Matsui votes aye.  
7605           Ms. Castor?  
7606           \*Ms. Castor.   Ms. Castor votes aye.  
7607           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Castor votes aye.  
7608           Mr. Sarbanes?  
7609           \*Mr. Sarbanes.   Sarbanes votes aye.

7610           \*Voice. I just wanted to let you know they will take a  
7611 quick, 10-minute --  
7612           \*The Clerk. Mr. Sarbanes votes aye.  
7613           Mr. McNerney?  
7614           \*Mr. McNerney. McNerney votes aye.  
7615           \*The Clerk. Mr. McNerney votes aye.  
7616           Mr. Welch?  
7617           \*Mr. Welch. Aye.  
7618           \*The Clerk. Mr. Welch votes aye.  
7619           Mr. Tonko?  
7620           \*Mr. Tonko. Tonko of New York votes aye.  
7621           \*The Clerk. Mr. Tonko votes aye.  
7622           Ms. Clarke?  
7623           \*Ms. Clarke. Tonko -- Clarke of New York votes aye.  
7624           [Laughter.]  
7625           \*The Clerk. Ms. Clarke votes aye.  
7626           Mr. Schrader?  
7627           \*Mr. Schrader. Schrader of Oregon votes no.  
7628           \*The Clerk. Mr. Schrader votes no.  
7629           Mr. Cardenas?  
7630           \*Mr. Cardenas. Cardenas, representing California, votes  
7631 aye.  
7632           \*The Clerk. Mr. Cardenas votes aye.  
7633           Mr. Ruiz?  
7634           \*Mr. Ruiz. Ruiz from California votes aye.

7635           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Ruiz votes aye.  
7636           Mr. Peters?  
7637           \*Mr. Peters.   Votes aye.  
7638           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Peters votes aye.  
7639           Mrs. Dingell?  
7640           \*Mrs. Dingell.   Dingell votes aye.  
7641           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Dingell votes aye.  
7642           Mr. Veasey?  
7643           \*Mr. Veasey.   Veasey votes aye.  
7644           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Veasey votes aye.  
7645           Ms. Kuster?  
7646           \*Ms. Kuster.   Aye, Kuster votes aye.  
7647           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Kuster votes aye.  
7648           Ms. Kelly?  
7649           \*Ms. Kelly.   Kelly votes aye.  
7650           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Kelly votes aye.  
7651           Ms. Barragan?  
7652           \*Ms. Barragan.   Barragan votes aye.  
7653           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Barragan votes aye.  
7654           Mr. McEachin?  
7655           \*Mr. McEachin.   McEachin of Virginia votes aye.  
7656           \*The Clerk.   Mr. McEachin votes aye.  
7657           Ms. Blunt Rochester?  
7658           \*Ms. Blunt Rochester.   Blunt Rochester of Delaware votes  
7659           aye.

7660           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Blunt Rochester votes aye.  
7661           Mr. Soto?  
7662           \*Mr. Soto.   Soto votes aye.  
7663           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Soto votes aye.  
7664           Mr. O'Halleran?  
7665           \*Mr. O'Halleran.   O'Halleran votes aye.  
7666           \*The Clerk.   Mr. O'Halleran votes aye.  
7667           Miss Rice?  
7668           \*Miss Rice.   [Inaudible.]  
7669           \*The Clerk.   Miss Rice votes aye.  
7670           Ms. Craig?  
7671           \*Ms. Craig.   Craig of Minnesota votes aye.  
7672           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Craig votes aye.  
7673           Ms. Schrier?  
7674           \*Ms. Schrier.   Schrier votes aye.  
7675           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Schrier votes aye.  
7676           Mrs. Trahan?  
7677           \*Mrs. Trahan.   Trahan votes aye.  
7678           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Trahan votes aye.  
7679           Mrs. Fletcher?  
7680           \*Mrs. Fletcher.   Fletcher votes aye.  
7681           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Fletcher votes aye.  
7682           Mrs. Rodgers?  
7683           \*Mrs. Rodgers.   [Inaudible.]  
7684           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Rodgers votes no.

7685 Mr. Upton?

7686 \*Mr. Upton. Mr. Upton votes no.

7687 \*The Clerk. Mr. Upton votes no.

7688 Mr. Burgess?

7689 [No response.]

7690 \*The Clerk. Mr. Scalise?

7691 \*Mr. Scalise. Mr. Scalise votes no.

7692 \*The Clerk. Mr. Scalise votes no.

7693 Mr. Latta?

7694 \*Mr. Latta. Latta votes no.

7695 \*The Clerk. Mr. Latta votes no.

7696 Mr. Guthrie?

7697 \*Mr. Guthrie. Guthrie votes no.

7698 \*The Clerk. Mr. Guthrie votes no.

7699 Mr. McKinley?

7700 \*Mr. McKinley. McKinley votes no.

7701 \*The Clerk. Mr. McKinley votes no.

7702 Mr. Kinzinger?

7703 \*Mr. Kinzinger. Kinzinger votes no.

7704 \*The Clerk. Mr. Kinzinger votes no.

7705 Mr. Griffith?

7706 \*Mr. Griffith. [Inaudible.]

7707 \*The Clerk. Mr. Griffith votes no.

7708 Mr. Bilirakis?

7709 \*Mr. Bilirakis. [Inaudible.]

7710           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Bilirakis votes no.  
7711           Mr. Johnson?  
7712           \*Mr. Johnson.   Johnson votes no.  
7713           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Johnson votes no.  
7714           Mr. Long?  
7715           \*Mr. Long.   No.  
7716           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Long votes no.  
7717           Mr. Bucshon?  
7718           \*Mr. Bucshon.   Bucshon from Indiana votes no.  
7719           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Bucshon votes no.  
7720           Mr. Mullin?  
7721           \*Mr. Mullin.   No.  
7722           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Mullin --  
7723           \*Mr. Mullin.   No.  
7724           \*The Clerk.   -- votes no.  
7725           Mr. Hudson?  
7726           \*Mr. Hudson.   Hudson votes no.  
7727           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Hudson votes no.  
7728           Mr. Walberg?  
7729           \*Mr. Walberg.   Walberg votes no.  
7730           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Walberg votes no.  
7731           Mr. Carter?  
7732           \*Mr. Carter.   Carter from Georgia votes nay.  
7733           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Carter votes no.  
7734           Mr. Duncan?

7735           \*Mr. Duncan.   Duncan, no.  
7736           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Duncan votes no.  
7737           Mr. Palmer?  
7738           \*Mr. Palmer.   Palmer votes no.  
7739           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Palmer votes no.  
7740           Mr. Dunn?  
7741           \*Mr. Dunn.   Dunn of Florida votes no.  
7742           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Dunn votes no.  
7743           Mr. Curtis?  
7744           \*Mr. Curtis.   Curtis votes no.  
7745           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Curtis votes no.  
7746           Mrs. Lesko?  
7747           \*Mrs. Lesko.   Lesko from Arizona votes no.  
7748           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Lesko votes no.  
7749           Mr. Pence?  
7750           \*Mr. Pence.   Pence from Indiana votes no.  
7751           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Pence votes no.  
7752           Mr. Crenshaw?  
7753           \*Mr. Crenshaw.   Crenshaw votes no.  
7754           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Crenshaw votes no.  
7755           Mr. Joyce?  
7756           \*Mr. Joyce.   Joyce from Pennsylvania votes no.  
7757           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Joyce votes no.  
7758           Mr. Armstrong?  
7759           \*Mr. Armstrong.   Armstrong votes no.

7760           \*The Clerk. Mr. Armstrong votes no.  
7761           Mr. Pallone?  
7762           \*The Chairman. Pallone from New Jersey votes aye.  
7763           \*The Clerk. Mr. Pallone votes aye.  
7764           \*Mr. Butterfield. Mr. Chairman? G.K. Butterfield.  
7765           \*The Chairman. Mr. Butterfield is not recorded?  
7766           \*Mr. Butterfield. Mr. Chairman, Butterfield of North  
7767 Carolina votes no -- votes aye, I am sorry.  
7768           \*The Chairman. Votes aye.  
7769           \*Mr. Butterfield. Yes, yes.  
7770           \*The Clerk. Mr. Butterfield votes aye.  
7771           \*The Chairman. Anyone else who is not recorded, who  
7772 wants to be?  
7773           All right, the clerk will report the tally. This is  
7774 final passage on the air pollution title, or print.  
7775           \*The Clerk. On that vote the yeas were 31 and the nays  
7776 were 26.  
7777           \*The Chairman. And the nays were 26, so the vote is 31  
7778 ayes to 26 noes.  
7779           Yes?  
7780           \*Mrs. Rodgers. Time to file views, I request the usual  
7781 number of days.  
7782           \*The Chairman. Okay, did we hear that? Do you want to  
7783 repeat it, maybe?  
7784           \*Mrs. Rodgers. Thank you, Mr. Chair. I plan to file



7785 views, and request the usual number of days.

7786 \*The Chairman. Without objection, so ordered.

7787 The committee has approved the committee print, Subtitle

7788 A: Budget Reconciliation Legislative Recommendations

7789 Relating to Air Pollution, as amended, and ordered the

7790 legislative recommendations transmitted to the Committee on

7791 Budget.

7792 All right, now we are going to go to the second print.

7793 The chair calls up the committee print, Subtitle B: Budget

7794 Reconciliation Legislative Recommendations Relating to

7795 Hazardous Materials, and the clerk will report the title of

7796 the bill.

7797 \*The Clerk. Committee print to Budget Reconciliation

7798 Legislative Recommendations Relating --

7799 \*The Chairman. Madam Clerk, without objection, the

7800 first reading of the bill will be dispensed with. The bill

7801 is now considered as read.

7802 And without objection, the bill is considered as read,

7803 and open for amendment at any point.

7804 [The bill follows:]

7805

7806 \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

7807

7808           \*Mr. Tonko. Mr. Chair?

7809           \*The Chairman. Mr. Tonko is recognized for an ANS, is  
7810 that --

7811           \*Mr. Tonko. I have an amendment in the nature of a  
7812 substitute at the desk, labeled Subtitle B01.

7813           \*The Chairman. The clerk has that?

7814           \*The Clerk. Yes, sir.

7815           \*The Chairman. The clerk will report the amendment.

7816           \*The Clerk. Amendment in the nature of a substitute to  
7817 committee print for Subtitle B, offered by Mr. Tonko of New  
7818 York --

7819           \*The Chairman. Without objection, Madam Clerk, the  
7820 reading of the amendment will be dispensed with.

7821           [The amendment of Mr. Tonko follows:]

7822

7823           \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

7824

7825           \*The Chairman. And Mr. Tonko is now recognized for five  
7826 minutes.

7827           \*Mr. Tonko. Thank you, Mr. Chair. This subtitle would  
7828 provide nearly \$16 billion in investment to clean up  
7829 contaminated sites, reduce waste, reduce exposure to toxics  
7830 in schools, and empower disadvantaged communities to address  
7831 environmental injustice.

7832           The first section provides some \$10 billion to implement  
7833 the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and  
7834 Liability Act at Federal facilities on the National Priority  
7835 List. Those sites, where Federal agencies cause serious,  
7836 dangerous contamination, pose a risk to public health and our  
7837 environment. It is the Federal Government's responsibility  
7838 to clean up that contamination, and these investments will  
7839 fund significant cleanup progress. There are currently 175  
7840 Federal facilities on the National Priority List. The need  
7841 for these funds is significant and pressing. I am proud we  
7842 were able to include this investment.

7843           The second section provides funding through an important  
7844 title of the Toxic Substances Control Act to reduce exposures  
7845 to toxic substances in our schools. The ANS before us  
7846 increases the amount of funds that we are devoting to this  
7847 purpose to \$50 million.

7848           The third section will refund important activities and  
7849 projects to reduce waste and increase recycling. This

7850 committee has always embraced the effort to reduce, reuse,  
7851 and recycle, and I think we are all aware of the significant  
7852 need for investment to improve and increase waste reduction  
7853 and recycling.

7854       The last section of this bill would provide landmark  
7855 funding for a new Environmental and Climate Justice Block  
7856 Grant program, which will provide much-needed investments in  
7857 our disadvantaged communities. The funds will support  
7858 community-led projects to address environmental injustices.  
7859 For far too long, disadvantaged communities have borne a  
7860 disproportionately large burden of pollution, and have  
7861 received a disproportionately small portion of Federal  
7862 investments in environmental quality. The landmark  
7863 investments in this section can have a huge impact.

7864       I thank all my colleagues who worked to develop this  
7865 section, including Representatives Ruiz and McEachin.

7866       Apart from the increases in funding to address toxics in  
7867 schools, this ANS contains technical changes to the bill,  
7868 mainly in response to technical assistance that we have  
7869 received from EPA.

7870       I urge my colleagues, Mr. Chair, to support this  
7871 amendment and the underlying print. And with that, I yield  
7872 back.

7873       \*The Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Tonko. Does the ranking  
7874 member --

7875           \*Mrs. Rodgers. I do.

7876           \*The Chairman. -- want to be recognized?

7877           I recognize Mrs. Rodgers for five minutes.

7878           \*Mrs. Rodgers. Yes, Mr. Chairman, I would like to  
7879 strike the requisite number of words.

7880           \*The Chairman. The gentlewoman is recognized for five  
7881 minutes.

7882           \*Mrs. Rodgers. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to  
7883 Subtitle B, and I urge my colleagues to do, as well. A brief  
7884 look at this subtitle, like the entirety of this effort, is  
7885 breathtaking as I consider the sweeping changes being forced  
7886 upon Americans, unprecedented on so many fronts, how it picks  
7887 winners on the tab of losers, printing record amounts of  
7888 money to reward political allies, creating a system where the  
7889 Federal Government gets special rules apart from citizens,  
7890 and providing more command and control by the unelected,  
7891 unaccountable.

7892           Importantly, this subtitle's out-of-control spending  
7893 levels dwarf historic funding for these programs, and the  
7894 subtitle doesn't contain any accountability measures. We  
7895 must stop fooling ourselves that the size of the check equals  
7896 the quality we receive. We must have transparency to be able  
7897 to track spending, measure results, and know what we are  
7898 getting for our money. Record spending and printing of money  
7899 has already raised record price increases on working

7900 families. Spending trillions on a wish list will only make  
7901 rising costs worse. The American people sent us here to  
7902 solve problems, not just spend us into debt.

7903 Turning to the specifics of this subtitle, Mr. Chairman,  
7904 the 10 billion in this subtitle to fund Superfund site  
7905 cleanups is almost seven times the amount of money annually  
7906 given to Superfund.

7907 And then -- and just as concerning is that this funding  
7908 isn't focused on remedial cleanup actions. So I am going to  
7909 be concerned that it is going to be wasted on endless site  
7910 studies and lawyer fees.

7911 It is only being spent on Federal sites, and it is not  
7912 prioritized for sites based on their level of risk to the  
7913 community. Superfund money should go to cleaning up the most  
7914 risky sites, regardless of whether the Federal Government is  
7915 responsible, particularly that they don't otherwise have the  
7916 backing to get cleaned up.

7917 But the reckless spending doesn't end there. Section  
7918 30202 provides 50 million --

7919 \*The Chairman. Mrs. Rodgers, can we just suspend? Too  
7920 much talking over here. Mr. Kessler, could you -- we would  
7921 like to hear the ranking member. Sorry.

7922 \*Mrs. Rodgers. Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

7923 \*The Chairman. You can continue.

7924 \*Mrs. Rodgers. Thank you, thank you.

7925           Section 30202 provides 50 million for programs relating  
7926 -- related to school siting selection, community outreach,  
7927 and environmental health programs. Yet this law's funding  
7928 authorization expired almost nine fiscal years ago, and I  
7929 cannot remember any hearing on this program. More reckless  
7930 Federal spending that will drive up inflation without  
7931 accountability.

7932           Section 30203 of Subtitle B appropriates 750 million for  
7933 grants to eligible entities to reduce waste and promote  
7934 recycling. One of the big concerns here is that -- this  
7935 section's disregard for the free enterprise, including trying  
7936 to create market demand and opportunities for certain  
7937 commodities, regardless if there is a viable one.

7938           Section 30204 appropriates \$5 billion to award grants to  
7939 "benefit disadvantaged communities, as defined by the  
7940 administrator.'" What does that mean?

7941           In a previous version, this program directed -- aided --  
7942 or directly aided low-income and disadvantaged communities,  
7943 but now EPA is being given enormous discretion to define and  
7944 determine who benefits from this program.

7945           In addition, Subtitle B specifically awards public  
7946 funding to community groups for advocacy at the Federal and  
7947 state level, and also anything else that EPA thinks is a good  
7948 idea. This is dangerous. Congress should not be funding  
7949 private groups to lobby, regardless of who they are, nor to

7950 create a situation where private parties become policy  
7951 contractors that ratify outcomes the agency wants, and which  
7952 skirt the Hatch Act.

7953 Congress shouldn't treat this funding like petty cash  
7954 for EPA to raid any time it seems like a good idea, and  
7955 especially when it is benefiting political allies and radical  
7956 environmentalists who have no concern over job losses, or  
7957 rising costs on low and middle-income families. For these  
7958 reasons, Mr. Chairman, I urge opposition to this subtitle.

7959 \*The Chairman. Thank you. What I wanted to -- can I  
7960 have a -- all right.

7961 So we -- well, I would like to finish anyone who wants  
7962 to speak on the underlying ANS. But then, after we are done,  
7963 we have to take a 10-minute break -- only 10 minutes --  
7964 because we have to -- the digital team has to switch to a new  
7965 stream, due to YouTube stream time constraints. But I would  
7966 like to finish with anyone who wants to speak on the  
7967 underlying ANS. And then, when we come back, we will do the  
7968 amendments.

7969 \*Mr. Schrader. Mr. Chairman?

7970 \*The Chairman. Anyone else want to speak on -- yes, Mr.  
7971 Schrader?

7972 \*Mr. Schrader. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just would  
7973 like to point out for the record that I support -- very  
7974 supportive of the hazardous material removal, in general,



7975 certainly a Superfund site at Hanford and the great state of  
7976 Washington State is a case in point.

7977 I would point out that we have already allocated \$10  
7978 billion in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Framework that would  
7979 go a long way to taking care of that. As the ranking member  
7980 pointed out, we are making historic investments in hazardous  
7981 materials already, and I am concerned about additional  
7982 spending in this particular section.

7983 And I yield back.

7984 \*The Chairman. All right. Anyone else want to speak on  
7985 the underlying bill?

7986 \*Mr. Rush. Mr. Chairman?

7987 \*Ms. Schrier. Mr. Chairman?

7988 \*The Chairman. Oh, Mr. -- any Republican?

7989 If not, we will go to Mr. Rush. Mr. Rush is recognized  
7990 for --

7991 \*Mr. Rush. Mr. Chairman --

7992 \*The Chairman. -- five minutes.

7993 \*Mr. Rush. -- I move to strike the last word.

7994 \*The Chairman. The gentleman is recognized.

7995 \*Mr. Rush. Mr. Chairman, I did not have any intention  
7996 to speak on this amendment, but I have been listening  
7997 intently to the debate on both sides all day, and I must --

7998 [Audio malfunction.]

7999 \*Mr. Rush. -- we are currently discussing.

8000           And in fact, even the larger bill is not in any way, by  
8001 any stretch of the imagination, objectionable, despite what  
8002 my colleagues on the other side of the aisle would have us  
8003 believe.

8004           It is easy to get distracted by the details. The larger  
8005 -- in this package includes sizable funding for cleaning up  
8006 Superfund sites, block grants for environmental and climate  
8007 justice, and, in part due to my own advocacy, investments  
8008 addressing toxins in school. These are not handouts, and  
8009 they are not the constructs of a nanny state. This rhetoric  
8010 that we have heard is harmful, and it seeks to prevent us  
8011 from helping those who need our help the most.

8012           And this subtitle is absolutely grounded in the  
8013 fundamental principle of helping those whose health and whose  
8014 well-being and suffering through no fault of their own (sic).  
8015 This subtitle attempts to finally take action to protect  
8016 those who live near polluted areas.

8017           And Mr. Chairman, according to the EPA, those  
8018 communities that are located close to polluted areas are more  
8019 likely to be made up of Black and Brown -- these communities  
8020 continue to suffer from the worst legacies of pollution. We  
8021 have an obligation to assist these communities, rather than  
8022 making it harder for them to get that vital assistance.

8023           I don't think that any of my colleagues on this  
8024 committee can agree -- can disagree with that principle.

8025     Cleaning up our community is not governmental overreach.  
8026     Taking toxins out of our children's schools is not in the  
8027     least way [inaudible]. That is absurd.

8028             Reducing the amount of waste dumped into the landfill  
8029     will not cause inflation. It is simply taking noble and  
8030     common-sense action for the common good.

8031             Mr. Chairman, I support this amendment, and I yield back  
8032     the balance of my time.

8033             \*The Chairman. Thank you.

8034             Anyone else who wants to speak on the ANS?

8035             \*Ms. Schrier. Kim Schrier.

8036             \*The Chairman. Oh, do we have a Republican?

8037             If not, Ms. Schakowsky would be next, and then we will  
8038     go to Dr. Schrier.

8039             Go ahead, Jan. I am sorry, Ms. Schakowsky is recognized  
8040     for five minutes.

8041             \*Ms. Schakowsky. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I move to  
8042     strike the last word.

8043             \*The Chairman. The gentlewoman is recognized.

8044             \*Ms. Schakowsky. For far too long, environmental  
8045     justice communities have had the -- had to bear the brunt of  
8046     the consequences of the climate crisis. These communities  
8047     disproportionately come under contact -- come into contact  
8048     with hazardous substances, toxic chemical emissions, and  
8049     other pollutants that are often emitted alongside greenhouse

8050 gases. They are also disproportionately affected by  
8051 worsening natural disasters and weatherization.

8052       What were once record-high temperatures, floods, and  
8053 wildfires are now occurring more frequently, and with  
8054 increased intensity. This bill includes a \$5 billion  
8055 investment in grants for community-led projects that will  
8056 help those most impacted by the climate crisis. It is time  
8057 to provide these communities and allow them to drive  
8058 conversations about solutions (sic).

8059       I urge my colleagues to support the full \$5 billion for  
8060 environmental justice communities, and climate justice block  
8061 grants, and I look forward to continuing our work to ensure a  
8062 more just and equitable future for all. Thank you, and I  
8063 yield back my time.

8064       \*Ms. Barragan. Ms. Schakowsky?

8065       \*The Chairman. Thank you.

8066       \*Ms. Barragan. Ms. Schakowsky, would you yield to Rep.  
8067 Barragan for your remaining time?

8068       \*Ms. Schakowsky. I would gladly yield.

8069       \*Ms. Barragan. I thank you, Ms. Schakowsky.

8070       Thank you, Mr. Chairman, as well, for having this  
8071 hearing on this important issue.

8072       Subtitle B has a \$5 billion investment in environmental  
8073 and climate justice grants, by far the -- ever. With this  
8074 investment, we will empower environmental justice communities

8075 to lead projects that reduce pollution, brings solutions to  
8076 communities first --

8077 [Audio malfunction.]

8078 \*Ms. Barragan. -- by the climate crisis. This will  
8079 mean climate-resilient solutions such as clean energy --  
8080 power on during extreme weather events like heat waves and  
8081 hurricanes. It means community solar projects that -- local  
8082 jobs, save money on electric bills, like the recent Solar  
8083 Project -- Senior Center in my district. It means green  
8084 infrastructure to prevent flooding and to protect communities  
8085 from extreme heat.

8086 These long -- will give environmental justice  
8087 communities the resources to fight for a safe climate and a  
8088 clean environment.

8089 I urge support, I thank my friend, Ms. Schakowsky, and I  
8090 yield back to her. Thank you.

8091 \*The Chairman. Okay, the gentlewoman from Illinois has  
8092 yielded back, so now we go to -- Dr. Schrier is recognized.  
8093 Oh, unless there is a Republican, we go to Dr. Schrier.

8094 \*Voice. Ms. Clarke, she is more senior.

8095 \*The Chairman. Oh, I had said Schrier first, though.  
8096 Let's do Schrier, and then we go to Ms Clarke, all right?

8097 \*Ms. Schrier. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to  
8098 strike the last word, and I wanted to speak in support of the  
8099 investments this legislation makes to reduce waste in our

8100 communities, and improve our nation's recycling  
8101 infrastructure.

8102         Local governments are the backbone of our nation's  
8103 recycling system, assuming nearly full responsibility for the  
8104 cost of residential recycling, education, collection, and  
8105 operation, not to mention figuring out the marketplace for  
8106 the recycled materials. Each municipality is governed by  
8107 different rules, and in many places recycling isn't even an  
8108 option, and this must change.

8109         Domestic recycling and waste management is in desperate  
8110 need of investment and modernization. The amount of waste we  
8111 produce only continues to grow, and if we do not take steps  
8112 to reduce our gross over-consumption of single-use plastics,  
8113 we are on course to generate over 12 billion metric tons of  
8114 plastic waste by 2050. This issue is particularly critical,  
8115 as there is no longer a market overseas for our plastics,  
8116 increasing the demand on local infrastructure, and forcing us  
8117 to look for alternative domestic solutions to handle our own  
8118 waste stream here at home.

8119         So strengthening recycling infrastructure and markets  
8120 for recycled materials within communities across the nation  
8121 is imperative to increasing the economic and environmental  
8122 viability of our recycling system. That is why earlier this  
8123 year I worked to secure \$55 million in this year's budget for  
8124 the EPA's Post-Consumer Materials Management Infrastructure

8125 Grant Program, which provides needed Federal funding to help  
8126 strengthen local recycling programs.

8127 And I am so excited that Build Back Better Act builds on  
8128 this work, and further addresses these challenges by  
8129 providing \$750 million to the EPA to award grants to help  
8130 communities modernize their recycling infrastructure, expand  
8131 access to composting, reduce food waste, and encourage  
8132 manufacturing and disposal practices that reduce waste.

8133 Together, all these investments will provide local  
8134 governments and communities with the resources they need to  
8135 create a more resilient and expansive U.S. recycling system.

8136 I thank the chairman and my colleagues for including  
8137 these investments in this legislation. I look forward to  
8138 continuing to fight for investments that uplift our  
8139 communities.

8140 Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I yield back.

8141 \*The Chairman. Thank you. So I am told we don't have  
8142 any more Democrats.

8143 And -- any more on your side? No? All right. So  
8144 what we are going to do is just take -- what is that?

8145 So we have a 10-minute break. It is now 10 minutes to  
8146 6:00, so -- and this is for this digital streaming, okay,  
8147 that we have to do this. So we will kind of come back at  
8148 6:00, sharp, okay?

8149 \*Mrs. Rodgers. Great. Very good.

8150           \*The Chairman.   Thank you.   The committee is in recess.

8151           [Recess.]

8152



8153 AFTER 6:00 p.m.

8154 \*The Chairman. The committee will reconvene.

8155 So when we left, we had reported the ANS, Mr. Tonko, on  
8156 the print Part B, which was on hazardous materials, correct?  
8157 And now we are going to go to amendments to the ANS.

8158 Are there members who seek recognition to offer an  
8159 amendment to the Tonko amendment in the nature of a  
8160 substitute?

8161 Mr. Carter has an amendment.

8162 \*Mr. Carter. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the  
8163 desk. It is labeled B 317.

8164 \*The Clerk. Yes, sir.

8165 \*The Chairman. The clerk will report the Carter  
8166 amendment.

8167 \*The Clerk. Amendment to Subtitle B, offered by Mr.  
8168 Carter of Georgia. At the end, add the following: section  
8169 30205, reservation of funds. The administrative --

8170 \*The Chairman. Without objection, Madam Clerk, the  
8171 reading of the amendment will be dispensed with.

8172 [The amendment of Mr. Carter follows:]

8173

8174 \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

8175

8176           \*The Chairman. And the gentleman -- Mr. Tonko?

8177           \*Mr. Tonko. Mr. Chair, I reserve a point of order on  
8178 the amendment, please.

8179           \*The Chairman. Mr. Tonko reserves a point of order, and  
8180 the gentleman from Georgia is recognized for five minutes.

8181           \*Mr. Carter. Mr. Chairman, my amendment is simple, but  
8182 necessary. It is good government, good for the taxpayer, and  
8183 good for transparency.

8184           Back in February, we spent billions of dollars on  
8185 programs in our committee's jurisdiction, and have no idea if  
8186 all that money has already been spent, how it has been spent,  
8187 what results came of that spending, and whether there was any  
8188 misuse or abuse of that funding. In fact, I know Ranking  
8189 Member Rodgers has been asking for months for an accounting  
8190 of this funding by the Federal Government. Yet no one has  
8191 been willing to offer us any information.

8192           My colleagues, that is not a political problem. That is  
8193 an institutional problem, when this committee cannot obtain  
8194 information about the program it is charged with overseeing.

8195           Now today, Subtitle B spends more than \$15 billion  
8196 supplementing funds for 2 existing programs with new sub  
8197 accounts, and creating a couple of new programs. This comes  
8198 in addition to the funds being requested through the normal  
8199 appropriations process.

8200           Of the existing programs it funds, Superfund has a 40-

8201 year history of negative Government Accountability Office  
8202 reports concerning its management and spending. Fortunately,  
8203 the last Administration seemed to be doing better.

8204 In addition, the Toxic Substances Control Act programs  
8205 have had very little oversight by this committee, even though  
8206 it is more than a dozen years old. Plus the two new  
8207 programs, and it spent \$5.75 billion to award grants to  
8208 groups in states, tribes, and localities for waste  
8209 minimization composting programs, efforts to encourage higher  
8210 waste disposal fees, and to subsidize Federal and state  
8211 lobbying.

8212 These are expensive and striking policy choices by the  
8213 majority. I was surprised all this new excessive spending  
8214 does not require any kind of transparency about the funding  
8215 it appropriates. Especially after all the complaining the  
8216 majority made about the last Administration, I cannot  
8217 understand why we don't want sunshine here.

8218 I think Ranking Member Rodgers's experience of asking  
8219 for this kind of information and then never receiving a  
8220 response proves that, if we want accountability, then we need  
8221 to demand it in the actual law. My amendment would solve  
8222 that.

8223 My amendment would reserve three percent of the funding  
8224 appropriated under this bill for the Inspector General of the  
8225 Environmental Protection Agency to conduct oversight of this

8226 program's implementation, identify any waste, fraud, or abuse  
8227 association with these programs, and to have it promptly  
8228 reported to Congress. It doesn't get any more  
8229 straightforward than that.

8230 We either -- accountability or we don't. We either  
8231 think Federal dollars need to be cared about, or we don't.  
8232 We think we need to be informed about bad actors, or we  
8233 don't. I believe we need all of these things, and I urge  
8234 support for my amendment, and I yield back.

8235 \*The Chairman. I thank the gentleman.

8236 Ms. DeGette would like to be recognized for five  
8237 minutes.

8238 [Pause.]

8239 \*The Chairman. She is virtual? Is she available?

8240 \*Voice. No, she was there, and I think she just left.  
8241 See if someone else wants to speak.

8242 \*The Chairman. Anyone else want to address the Carter  
8243 amendment?

8244 No?

8245 \*Voice. Mr. Tonko.

8246 \*The Chairman. Mr. Tonko is recognized for five  
8247 minutes.

8248 \*Mr. Tonko. Thank you, Mr. Chair. The amendment filed,  
8249 B 317, filed by the minority to Subtitle B Hazardous  
8250 Materials, has caused this concern. The amendment is

8251 unnecessary, because the Office of the Inspector General  
8252 receives funding through the normal appropriations process.

8253 But I am pleasantly surprised that my colleagues on the  
8254 other side of the aisle are supporting that office, and  
8255 robust funding for it. So I hope my colleagues will work  
8256 with us during the normal appropriations cycle to support  
8257 robust funding for the EPA IG.

8258 And with that, I yield back.

8259 \*The Chairman. Thank you.

8260 Anyone else on either side?

8261 You spoke already. Want to ask somebody else? Mr.  
8262 Hudson?

8263 \*Mr. Hudson. I move to strike the last word.

8264 \*The Chairman. Mr. Hudson is recognized.

8265 \*Mr. Hudson. I yield to my colleague from Georgia, Mr.  
8266 Carter.

8267 \*Mr. Carter. Mr. Chairman, with all due respect to Mr.  
8268 Tonko's remarks about this being unnecessary, it is obvious  
8269 that we are not getting the kind of transparency, the kind of  
8270 response that we should be getting for these programs, and  
8271 that the taxpayers demand out of us, as the oversight  
8272 committee on these particular programs. That is why, if we  
8273 include it in the law, then we know that it is going to be  
8274 part of what they are charged with doing. And then we will  
8275 get the transparency and the accountability that the

8276 taxpayers deserve.

8277           And I just want to make sure that my colleagues on the  
8278 other side of the aisle understand that. Three percent of  
8279 this would go toward making sure that our constituents, my  
8280 constituents, your constituents, our constituents would be  
8281 informed, and they would know exactly where these funds are  
8282 going. And I don't think that is too much to ask of anyone.

8283           So I would beg to differ, that it is not a -- that it is  
8284 unnecessary. I would beg to differ that it is much needed  
8285 and necessary, and I yield back.

8286           \*Mr. Hudson. I yield back, Mr. Chairman.

8287           \*The Chairman. Thank you. Anyone else want to talk  
8288 about this?

8289           All right, then we are going to go to -- you guys want a  
8290 recorded vote?

8291           Okay, a recorded vote is ordered on the Carter amendment  
8292 to the ANS. Those in favor of the Carter amendment will say  
8293 aye, those opposed will say no, and the clerk shall call the  
8294 roll.

8295           \*The Clerk. Mr. Rush?

8296           \*Mr. Rush. Rush of Illinois votes no.

8297           \*The Clerk. Mr. Rush votes no.

8298           Ms. Eshoo?

8299           \*Ms. Eshoo. Eshoo from California votes no.

8300           \*The Clerk. Ms. Eshoo votes no.

8301 Ms. DeGette?  
8302 [No response.]  
8303 \*The Clerk. Mr. Doyle?  
8304 \*Mr. Doyle. Doyle votes no.  
8305 \*The Clerk. Mr. Doyle votes no.  
8306 Ms. Schakowsky?  
8307 \*Ms. Schakowsky. Votes no.  
8308 \*The Clerk. Ms. Schakowsky votes no.  
8309 Mr. Butterfield?  
8310 \*Mr. Butterfield. Butterfield votes no.  
8311 \*The Clerk. Mr. Butterfield votes no.  
8312 Ms. Matsui?  
8313 \*Ms. Matsui. Matsui votes no.  
8314 \*The Clerk. Ms. Matsui votes no.  
8315 Ms. Castor?  
8316 \*Ms. Castor. Ms. Castor votes no.  
8317 \*The Clerk. Ms. Castor votes no.  
8318 Mr. Sarbanes?  
8319 \*Mr. Sarbanes. Sarbanes votes no.  
8320 \*The Clerk. Mr. Sarbanes votes no.  
8321 Mr. McNerney?  
8322 \*Mr. McNerney. McNerney votes no.  
8323 \*The Clerk. Mr. McNerney votes no.  
8324 Mr. Welch?  
8325 \*Mr. Welch. Mr. Welch votes no.

8326           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Welch votes no.  
8327           Mr. Tonko?  
8328           \*Mr. Tonko.   Tonko from New York votes no.  
8329           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Tonko votes no.  
8330           Ms. Clarke?  
8331           [No response.]  
8332           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Schrader?  
8333           [No response.]  
8334           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Cardenas?  
8335           \*Mr. Cardenas.   Cardenas, representing California, votes  
8336   no.  
8337           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Cardenas votes no.  
8338           Mr. Ruiz?  
8339           \*Mr. Ruiz.   Ruiz from California votes no.  
8340           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Ruiz votes no.  
8341           Mr. Peters?  
8342           \*Mr. Peters.   [Inaudible.]  
8343           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Peters votes no.  
8344           Mrs. Dingell?  
8345           \*Mrs. Dingell.   Dingell votes no.  
8346           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Dingell votes no.  
8347           Mr. Veasey?  
8348           \*Mr. Veasey.   Veasey votes no.  
8349           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Veasey, can you repeat your vote,  
8350   please?



8351 [No response.]

8352 \*The Clerk. Mr. Veasey, can you please repeat your

8353 vote?

8354 \*Mr. Veasey. Veasey votes no.

8355 \*The Clerk. Mr. Veasey votes no.

8356 Ms. Kuster?

8357 \*Ms. Kuster. Kuster votes no.

8358 \*The Clerk. Ms. Kuster votes no.

8359 Ms. Kelly?

8360 \*Ms. Kelly. Kelly votes no.

8361 \*The Clerk. Ms. Kelly votes no.

8362 Ms. Barragan?

8363 \*Ms. Barragan. Barragan votes no.

8364 \*The Clerk. Ms. Barragan votes no.

8365 Mr. McEachin?

8366 \*Mr. McEachin. McEachin of Virginia votes no.

8367 \*The Clerk. Mr. McEachin votes no.

8368 Ms. Blunt Rochester?

8369 \*Ms. Blunt Rochester. Blunt Rochester votes no.

8370 \*The Clerk. Ms. Blunt Rochester votes no.

8371 Mr. Soto?

8372 \*Mr. Soto. Soto votes no.

8373 \*The Clerk. Mr. Soto votes no.

8374 Mr. O'Halleran?

8375 \*Mr. O'Halleran. O'Halleran votes no.

8376           \*The Clerk.   Mr. O'Halleran votes no.  
8377           Miss Rice?  
8378           \*Miss Rice.   [Inaudible.]  
8379           \*The Clerk.   Miss Rice votes no.  
8380           Ms. Craig?  
8381           \*Ms. Craig.   Craig of Minnesota votes no.  
8382           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Craig votes no.  
8383           Ms. Schrier?  
8384           \*Ms. Schrier.   Schrier votes no.  
8385           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Schrier votes no.  
8386           Mrs. Trahan?  
8387           \*Mrs. Trahan.   Trahan votes no.  
8388           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Trahan, can you please repeat your  
8389   vote?  
8390           \*Mrs. Trahan.   Trahan votes no.  
8391           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Trahan votes no.  
8392           Mrs. Fletcher?  
8393           \*Mrs. Fletcher.   Fletcher votes no.  
8394           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Fletcher votes no.  
8395           Mrs. Rodgers?  
8396           \*Mrs. Rodgers.   Rodgers, aye.  
8397           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Rodgers votes aye.  
8398           Mr. Upton?  
8399           \*Mr. Upton.   Upton votes aye.  
8400           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Upton votes aye.

8401 Mr. Burgess?

8402 [No response.]

8403 \*The Clerk. Mr. Scalise?

8404 \*Mr. Scalise. Scalise votes aye.

8405 \*The Clerk. Mr. Scalise, can you please repeat your

8406 vote?

8407 \*Mr. Scalise. Scalise votes aye.

8408 \*The Clerk. Mr. Scalise votes aye.

8409 Mr. Latta?

8410 \*Mr. Latta. Latta votes aye.

8411 \*The Clerk. Mr. Latta votes aye.

8412 Mr. Guthrie?

8413 \*Mr. Guthrie. Aye.

8414 \*The Clerk. Mr. Guthrie votes aye.

8415 Mr. McKinley?

8416 \*Mr. McKinley. [Inaudible.]

8417 \*The Clerk. Mr. McKinley votes aye.

8418 Mr. Kinzinger?

8419 [No response.]

8420 \*The Clerk. Mr. Griffith?

8421 \*Mr. Griffith. Griffith votes aye.

8422 \*The Clerk. Mr. Griffith votes aye.

8423 Mr. Bilirakis?

8424 \*Mr. Bilirakis. Bilirakis votes aye.

8425 \*The Clerk. Mr. Bilirakis votes aye.

8426 Mr. Johnson?

8427 \*Mr. Johnson. Johnson votes aye.

8428 \*The Clerk. Mr. Johnson votes aye.

8429 Mr. Long?

8430 [No response.]

8431 \*The Clerk. Mr. Bucshon?

8432 \*Mr. Bucshon. Bucshon from Indiana votes aye.

8433 \*The Clerk. Mr. Bucshon votes aye.

8434 Mr. Mullin?

8435 [No response.]

8436 \*The Clerk. Mr. Hudson?

8437 \*Mr. Hudson. Hudson from North Carolina votes aye.

8438 \*The Clerk. Mr. Hudson votes aye.

8439 Mr. Walberg?

8440 \*Mr. Walberg. Walberg votes aye.

8441 \*The Clerk. Mr. Walberg votes aye.

8442 Mr. Carter?

8443 \*Mr. Carter. Carter from Georgia votes aye.

8444 \*The Clerk. Mr. Carter votes aye.

8445 Mr. Duncan?

8446 \*Mr. Duncan. Mr. Duncan votes aye. Duncan votes aye.

8447 \*The Clerk. Mr. Duncan votes aye.

8448 Mr. Palmer?

8449 \*Mr. Palmer. [Inaudible.]

8450 \*The Clerk. Mr. Palmer votes aye.

8451 Mr. Dunn?

8452 \*Mr. Dunn. Mr. Dunn of Florida votes aye.

8453 \*The Clerk. Mr. Dunn votes aye.

8454 Mr. Curtis?

8455 \*Mr. Curtis. Curtis votes aye.

8456 \*The Clerk. Mr. Curtis votes aye.

8457 Mrs. Lesko?

8458 \*Mrs. Lesko. Lesko of Arizona votes aye.

8459 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Lesko votes aye.

8460 Mr. Pence?

8461 \*Mr. Pence. Pence votes aye.

8462 \*The Clerk. Mr. Pence votes aye.

8463 Mr. Crenshaw?

8464 \*Mr. Crenshaw. Crenshaw votes aye.

8465 \*The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw votes aye.

8466 Mr. Joyce?

8467 \*Mr. Joyce. Joyce votes aye.

8468 \*The Clerk. Mr. Joyce votes aye.

8469 Mr. Armstrong?

8470 \*Mr. Armstrong. Armstrong votes yes.

8471 \*The Clerk. Mr. Armstrong votes aye.

8472 Chairman Pallone?

8473 \*The Chairman. Pallone from New Jersey votes no.

8474 \*The Clerk. Chairman Pallone votes no.

8475 \*Ms. Clarke. Mr. Chairman?

8476           \*The Chairman.   Yes?

8477           \*Ms. Clarke.   How am I recorded?

8478           \*The Chairman.   How is Ms. Clarke recorded?

8479           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Clarke is not recorded.

8480           \*Ms. Clarke.   Mr. Chairman, Ms. Clarke of New York votes

8481   aye -- oh, excuse me, votes no.

8482           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Clarke votes no.

8483           \*Ms. Clarke.   Thank you.

8484           \*Ms. DeGette.   Mr. Chairman?

8485           \*The Chairman.   Ms. DeGette?

8486           \*Ms. DeGette.   How am I recorded?

8487           \*The Clerk.   Ms. DeGette is not recorded.

8488           \*Ms. DeGette.   Ms. DeGette votes no.

8489           \*The Chairman.   Is she --

8490           \*The Clerk.   Ms. DeGette votes no.

8491           \*The Chairman.   Mr. Schrader?

8492           \*Mr. Schrader.   Mr. Schrader from Oregon votes no.

8493           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Schrader votes no.

8494           \*The Chairman.   Was Kinzinger recorded, Mr. Kinzinger?

8495           \*The Clerk.   He is not recorded.

8496           \*The Chairman.   Okay.   Well, it -- oh, Mr. Long is not

8497   recorded.

8498           Mr. Long, are you there?   Billy?

8499           \*Mr. Long.   Can you hear me?

8500           \*The Chairman.   Yes.

8501           \*Mr. Long. I got bad audio, I couldn't hear any of the  
8502 -- the third time I called back.  
8503           \*The Chairman. We can hear you.  
8504           \*Mr. Long. I am a yes.  
8505           \*The Clerk. Mr. Long votes aye.  
8506           \*The Chairman. Mr. Mullin?  
8507 [No response.]  
8508           \*Voice. I have Burgess, Kinzinger, and Mullin.  
8509           \*The Chairman. I don't want to keep calling names.  
8510           \*Voice. Burgess is gone.  
8511           \*The Chairman. And Kinzinger and Mullin?  
8512 Did you -- he wasn't recorded, Mullin? Is Mr. Mullin  
8513 recorded?  
8514           \*The Clerk. No, he is not.  
8515           \*Mr. Mullin. I am here.  
8516           \*The Chairman. Mr. Mullin, go ahead. You are not  
8517 recorded.  
8518           \*Mr. Mullin. I am a no. Or a yes, yes.  
8519           \*The Chairman. It is a yes.  
8520           \*Mr. Mullin. I am a yes.  
8521           \*The Clerk. Mr. Mullin votes aye.  
8522           \*The Chairman. All right. That is it, I guess. The  
8523 clerk will report the tally.  
8524           \*The Clerk. On that vote, Mr. Chairman, the yeas were  
8525 24 and the nays were 32.

8526           \*The Chairman. Okay, so this is on the Carter  
8527 amendment. The vote is 24 ayes to 32 noes, and the amendment  
8528 is not agreed to.

8529           And so we are now back on the Tonko substitute, Tonko  
8530 ANS to the hazardous waste bill. Is there -- are there any  
8531 other amendments on this part B?

8532           All right. Well, then we will go to the ANS. You don't  
8533 want that recorded.

8534           \*Mrs. Rodgers. I do.

8535           \*The Chairman. Okay, so a voice vote -- if there is no  
8536 further debate, we will proceed to a vote on the -- is this  
8537 the ANS? Oh, no, I am sorry. If there is no further debate  
8538 or amendments, we will proceed to a vote on the amendment in  
8539 the nature of a substitute to committee print, Subtitle B:  
8540 Budget Reconciliation Legislative Recommendations Relating to  
8541 Hazardous Material, as amended -- no, this is the ANS.

8542           Please, all those in favor of the amendment in the  
8543 nature of a substitute to the committee print, Subtitle B:  
8544 Budget Reconciliation Legislative Recommendations Relating to  
8545 Hazardous Materials will signify by saying aye.

8546           And all those opposed will signify by saying no.

8547           In the opinion of the chair, the ayes have it. But now  
8548 we -- okay, so the amendment in the nature of a substitute to  
8549 the committee print, Subtitle B: Budget Reconciliation  
8550 Legislative Recommendations Relating to Hazardous Materials



8551 is agreed to.

8552 And now we are going to go to final passage on this  
8553 Subtitle B. So the question now occurs on approval and  
8554 transmitting to the Committee on Budget the committee print,  
8555 Subtitle B: Budget Reconciliation Legislative  
8556 Recommendations Relating to Hazardous Materials, as amended.

8557 The chair moves the committee do now approve and  
8558 transmit the recommendations of this committee and all  
8559 appropriate accompanying material, including additional,  
8560 supplemental, minority, or dissenting views to the House  
8561 Committee on the Budget, in order to comply with the  
8562 reconciliation directive included in section 2002 of a  
8563 concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal year 2022,  
8564 S.Con.Res. 14, and consistent with section 310 of the  
8565 Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974.

8566 So all those in favor will signify by saying aye.

8567 Are you okay with a voice on that? This is final  
8568 passage.

8569 \*Mrs. Rodgers. Oh, yes, we would like a recorded vote.

8570 \*The Chairman. All right, we have to do a recorded vote  
8571 on that. So a recorded vote is ordered. All those in favor  
8572 will signify by saying aye, those opposed will say no, and  
8573 this is on the second bill dealing with hazardous materials,  
8574 final passage.

8575 The clerk shall call the roll.

8576           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Rush?  
8577           \*Mr. Rush.   Aye.  
8578           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Rush votes aye.  
8579           Ms. Eshoo?  
8580           \*Ms. Eshoo.   Eshoo of California votes aye.  
8581           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Eshoo votes aye.  
8582           Ms. DeGette?  
8583           \*Ms. DeGette.   DeGette votes aye.  
8584           \*The Clerk.   Ms. DeGette votes aye.  
8585           Mr. Doyle?  
8586           \*Mr. Doyle.   Doyle votes yes.  
8587           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Doyle votes aye.  
8588           Ms. Schakowsky?  
8589           \*Ms. Schakowsky.   Schakowsky votes aye.  
8590           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Schakowsky votes aye.  
8591           Mr. Butterfield?  
8592           \*Mr. Butterfield.   Butterfield votes aye.  
8593           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Butterfield votes aye.  
8594           Ms. Matsui?  
8595           \*Ms. Matsui.   Matsui votes aye.  
8596           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Matsui votes aye.  
8597           Ms. Castor?  
8598           \*Ms. Castor.   [Inaudible.]  
8599           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Castor votes aye.  
8600           Mr. Sarbanes?

8601           \*Mr. Sarbanes. Sarbanes votes aye.  
8602           \*The Clerk. Mr. Sarbanes votes aye.  
8603           Mr. McNerney?  
8604           \*Mr. McNerney. McNerney votes aye.  
8605           \*The Clerk. Mr. McNerney votes aye.  
8606           Mr. Welch?  
8607           \*Mr. Welch. [Inaudible.]  
8608           \*The Clerk. Mr. Welch votes aye.  
8609           Mr. Tonko?  
8610           \*Mr. Tonko. Tonko from New York votes aye.  
8611           \*The Clerk. Mr. Tonko votes aye.  
8612           Ms. Clarke?  
8613           [No response.]  
8614           \*The Clerk. Mr. Schrader?  
8615           \*Mr. Schrader. Schrader of Oregon votes no.  
8616           \*The Clerk. Mr. Schrader votes no.  
8617           Mr. Cardenas?  
8618           \*Mr. Cardenas. Cardenas, representing California, votes  
8619           aye.  
8620           \*The Clerk. Mr. Cardenas votes aye.  
8621           Mr. Ruiz?  
8622           \*Mr. Ruiz. Ruiz from California votes aye.  
8623           [Pause.]  
8624           \*Mr. Ruiz. Ruiz from California votes aye.  
8625           \*The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz votes aye.

8626 Mr. Peters?

8627 \*Mr. Peters. [Inaudible.]

8628 \*The Clerk. Mr. Peters votes aye.

8629 Mrs. Dingell?

8630 \*Mrs. Dingell. Votes aye, Dingell votes aye.

8631 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell votes aye.

8632 Mr. Veasey?

8633 \*Mr. Veasey. Veasey votes aye.

8634 \*The Clerk. Mr. Veasey votes aye.

8635 Ms. Kuster?

8636 \*Ms. Kuster. Kuster votes aye.

8637 \*The Clerk. Ms. Kuster votes aye.

8638 Ms. Kelly?

8639 \*Ms. Kelly. Kelly votes aye.

8640 \*The Clerk. Ms. Kelly votes aye.

8641 Ms. Barragan?

8642 \*Ms. Barragan. Barragan votes aye.

8643 \*The Clerk. Ms. Barragan votes aye.

8644 Mr. McEachin?

8645 \*Mr. McEachin. McEachin of Virginia votes aye.

8646 \*The Clerk. Mr. McEachin votes aye.

8647 Ms. Blunt Rochester?

8648 \*Ms. Blunt Rochester. Blunt Rochester votes aye.

8649 \*The Clerk. Ms. Blunt Rochester votes aye.

8650 Mr. Soto?

8651           \*Mr. Soto.   Soto of Florida votes aye.  
8652           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Soto votes aye.  
8653           Mr. O'Halleran?  
8654           \*Mr. O'Halleran.   O'Halleran votes aye.  
8655           \*The Clerk.   Mr. O'Halleran votes aye.  
8656           Miss Rice?  
8657           \*Miss Rice.   [Inaudible.]  
8658           \*The Clerk.   Miss Rice votes aye.  
8659           Ms. Craig?  
8660           \*Ms. Craig.   Ms. Craig of Minnesota votes aye.  
8661           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Craig votes aye.  
8662           Ms. Schrier?  
8663           \*Ms. Schrier.   Schrier votes aye.  
8664           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Schrier votes aye.  
8665           Mrs. Trahan?  
8666           \*Mrs. Trahan.   Trahan votes aye.  
8667           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Trahan votes aye.  
8668           Mrs. Fletcher?  
8669           \*Mrs. Fletcher.   Fletcher votes aye.  
8670           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Fletcher votes aye.  
8671           Mrs. Rodgers?  
8672           \*Mrs. Rodgers.   No.  
8673           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Rodgers votes no.  
8674           Mr. Upton?  
8675           \*Mr. Upton.   Upton votes no.

8676           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Upton votes no.  
8677           Mr. Burgess?  
8678           [No response.]  
8679           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Scalise?  
8680           \*Mr. Scalise.   Scalise votes aye.  
8681           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Scalise --  
8682           \*Mr. Scalise.   No, Scalise votes no.  
8683           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Scalise votes no.  
8684           Mr. Latta?  
8685           \*Mr. Latta.   Latta votes no.  
8686           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Latta votes no.  
8687           Mr. Guthrie?  
8688           \*Mr. Guthrie.   Guthrie votes no.  
8689           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Guthrie votes no.  
8690           Mr. McKinley?  
8691           \*Mr. McKinley.   [Inaudible.]  
8692           \*The Clerk.   Mr. McKinley votes no.  
8693           Mr. Kinzinger?  
8694           \*Mr. Kinzinger.   Kinzinger, no.  
8695           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Kinzinger votes no.  
8696           Mr. Griffith?  
8697           \*Mr. Griffith.   [Inaudible.]  
8698           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Griffith votes no.  
8699           Mr. Bilirakis?  
8700           \*Mr. Bilirakis.   Bilirakis votes no.

8701           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Bilirakis votes no.  
8702           Mr. Johnson?  
8703           \*Mr. Johnson.   Johnson votes no.  
8704           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Johnson votes no.  
8705           Mr. Bucshon?  
8706           \*Mr. Bucshon.   Bucshon --  
8707           \*Mr. Long.    How about Long?  
8708           \*Mr. Bucshon.   -- from Indiana votes no.  
8709           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Bucshon votes no.  
8710           Mr. Long?  
8711           \*Mr. Long.    No.  
8712           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Long votes no.  
8713           Mr. Mullin?  
8714           \*Mr. Mullin.   No.  
8715           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Mullin votes no.  
8716           Mr. Hudson?  
8717           \*Mr. Hudson.   Hudson of North Carolina votes no.  
8718           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Hudson votes no.  
8719           Mr. Walberg?  
8720           \*Mr. Walberg.   Walberg votes no.  
8721           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Walberg votes no.  
8722           Mr. Carter?  
8723           \*Mr. Carter.   Carter from Georgia votes no.  
8724           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Carter votes no.  
8725           Mr. Duncan?

8726 \*Mr. Duncan. Mr. Duncan of South Carolina votes no.  
8727 \*The Clerk. Mr. Duncan votes no.  
8728 Mr. Palmer?  
8729 \*Mr. Palmer. [Inaudible.]  
8730 \*The Clerk. Mr. Palmer votes no.  
8731 Mr. Dunn?  
8732 \*Mr. Dunn. Dunn of Florida votes no.  
8733 \*The Clerk. Mr. Dunn votes no.  
8734 Mr. Curtis?  
8735 \*Mr. Curtis. Curtis votes no.  
8736 \*The Clerk. Mr. Curtis votes no.  
8737 Mrs. Lesko?  
8738 \*Mrs. Lesko. Lesko of Arizona votes no.  
8739 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Lesko votes no.  
8740 Mr. Pence?  
8741 \*Mr. Pence. Pence from Indiana votes no.  
8742 \*The Clerk. Mr. Pence votes no.  
8743 Mr. Crenshaw?  
8744 \*Mr. Crenshaw. Crenshaw votes no.  
8745 \*The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw votes no.  
8746 Mr. Joyce?  
8747 \*Mr. Joyce. Joyce from Pennsylvania votes no.  
8748 \*The Clerk. Mr. Joyce votes no.  
8749 Mr. Armstrong?  
8750 \*Mr. Armstrong. Armstrong votes no.



8751           \*The Clerk. Mr. Armstrong votes no.  
8752           Mr. Pallone?  
8753           \*The Chairman. Pallone from New Jersey votes aye.  
8754           \*The Clerk. Mr. Pallone votes aye.  
8755           \*Ms. Clarke. Mr. Chairman?  
8756           \*The Chairman. Yes?  
8757           \*Ms. Clarke. How am I recorded?  
8758           \*The Chairman. You are not recorded.  
8759           \*Ms. Clarke. Clarke from New York votes yes.  
8760           \*The Clerk. Ms. Clarke votes aye.  
8761           \*Mr. O'Halleran. Mr. Chairman --  
8762           \*The Chairman. Anyone --  
8763           \*Mr. O'Halleran. -- how is O'Halleran recorded?  
8764           \*The Clerk. Mr. O'Halleran voted aye.  
8765           \*Mr. O'Halleran. All right, thank you.  
8766           \*The Chairman. Is there anyone else who has been -- who  
8767           is not recorded that would like to be?  
8768           Okay, so the clerk will report the tally.  
8769           \*The Clerk. On that vote, Mr. Chairman, the ayes were  
8770           31 and the nays were 26.  
8771           \*The Chairman. So the vote -- this is on transmitting  
8772           Part B on hazardous waste to the Committee on Budget, final  
8773           passage. The vote is 31 ayes to 26 noes, and the committee  
8774           has approved the committee print, Subtitle B: Budget  
8775           Reconciliation Legislative Recommendations Relating to

8776 Hazardous Materials, as amended, and ordered the legislative  
8777 recommendations transmitted to the Committee on Budget.

8778 The ranking member is recognized.

8779 \*Mrs. Rodgers. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I plan to file  
8780 views, and request the usual number of days.

8781 \*The Chairman. And without objection, so ordered.

8782 [Pause.]

8783 \*The Chairman. The chair now calls up the committee  
8784 print, Subtitle K: Budget Reconciliation Legislative  
8785 Recommendations Relating to Next Generation 911, and the  
8786 clerk will report the title of the bill.

8787 Take a minute.

8788 [Pause.]

8789 \*The Chairman. Subtitle K?

8790 \*The Clerk. Yes, committee print by the Committee on  
8791 Energy and Commerce providing for reconciliation pursuant to  
8792 S.Con.Res. 14, the concurrent resolution on the budget for  
8793 fiscal year 2022, title 3, Committee on Energy and Commerce,  
8794 Subtitle K: Budget Reconciliation Legislative  
8795 Recommendations Relating to Next Generation 911. Section --

8796 \*The Chairman. Without objection -- well, I guess the  
8797 first reading of the bill -- yes, without objection, the  
8798 first reading of the bill will be dispensed with. The bill  
8799 is now considered as read.

8800 And without objection, the bill is considered as read,

8801 and open for amendment at any point.

8802 [The bill follows:]

8803

8804 \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

8805

8806           \*The Chairman. Are there any members seeking  
8807 recognition?

8808           Do we have an ANS on this? Who is that?

8809           \*Voice. Ms. Eshoo.

8810           \*The Chairman. Ms. Eshoo, you have an amendment in the  
8811 nature of a substitute?

8812           \*Ms. Eshoo. I do, Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment in  
8813 the nature of a substitute for Subtitle K at the desk.

8814           \*The Chairman. The gentlewoman is -- you have that?

8815           \*The Clerk. Yes, sir.

8816           \*The Chairman. All right. So the clerk will report the  
8817 ANS, the amendment in the nature of a substitute.

8818           \*The Clerk. Amendment in the nature of a substitute to  
8819 Subtitle K, offered by Ms. Eshoo of California.

8820           \*The Chairman. And without objection, the reading of  
8821 the amendment will be dispensed with.

8822           [The amendment of Ms. Eshoo follows:]

8823

8824           \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

8825

8826           \*The Chairman. And Ms. Eshoo is now recognized for five  
8827 minutes.

8828           \*Ms. Eshoo. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

8829           Colleagues, this amendment makes some common-sense  
8830 technical and conforming edits on a very important part of  
8831 this overall bill.

8832           Subtitle K provides \$10 billion to establish a new grant  
8833 program to help fund the nationwide adoption of Next  
8834 Generation 911. We abbreviate it, and call it NG911.

8835           On Saturday, as I mentioned very early on this morning,  
8836 we commemorated the 20th anniversary of the September 11  
8837 attacks. I think all of us are going to mourn the loss of  
8838 almost 3,000 precious souls the rest of our lives. It was  
8839 the worst attack in our country's history, and we will always  
8840 celebrate the heroes who answered the call that day and so,  
8841 so bravely put themselves in harm's way to save lives, but we  
8842 can really never repay them.

8843           Two years after that horrific tragedy, I co-founded the  
8844 E911 caucus with Congressman John Shimkus, Senator Conrad  
8845 Burns, and Senator Hillary Clinton. I am the only one left  
8846 standing of that original four bipartisan group. The caucus  
8847 was founded to support first responders and the public safety  
8848 community by moving our nation's 911 services into the 21st  
8849 century. But 18 years after founding the E911 Caucus, we  
8850 haven't come close to reaching this goal after so many

8851 attempts. I know, I have been part of every single one of  
8852 them.

8853 Most 911 call centers across the country and in your  
8854 congressional district are still using the same legacy  
8855 technology that was in place when the first 911 call was made  
8856 over 50 years ago. This is unacceptable. We are the most  
8857 innovative country in the world, and we are capable of so  
8858 much more. Thankfully, we have the opportunity today to make  
8859 the investments needed to adopt the next generation of public  
8860 safety communications.

8861 NG911 technology will allow our emergency communication  
8862 centers to receive real-time location information, text  
8863 messages, photos, and video from individuals at the scene of  
8864 an emergency, and to share that information with first  
8865 responders in the field to help them better respond to the  
8866 emergency. It will make our emergency communication centers  
8867 more secure, resilient, interoperable, and reliable, and it  
8868 will help to save lives.

8869 Beyond grants, this subtitle provides \$80 million for  
8870 the NTIA to establish a Next Generation 911 Cybersecurity  
8871 Center to assist state, local, and regional governments  
8872 partner by sharing cybersecurity threat information to  
8873 prevent cyber attacks.

8874 The subtitle also provides \$10 million to be made  
8875 available in this amendment for the Department of Commerce

8876 IG.

8877 As I said in my opening statement, 911 is a lifeline for  
8878 Americans in their greatest hour of need. And in an  
8879 emergency, few things are more important than these three  
8880 numbers when it comes to getting help. It very often can  
8881 make the difference between life and death.

8882 I am thrilled that this legislation is finally moving  
8883 forward after so many years of work, and I am thrilled that  
8884 this subtitle has the support of a broad coalition of law  
8885 enforcement and public safety organizations, including the  
8886 Major County Sheriffs America, the Major Cities Chiefs  
8887 Association, National Sheriffs Association, the International  
8888 Association of Chiefs of Police, the International  
8889 Association of Fire Chiefs, the Metropolitan Fire Chiefs  
8890 Association, National Association of State EMS Officials,  
8891 Association of Public Safety Communications Officials, the  
8892 National Association of State 911 Administrators, and the  
8893 National Emergency Number Association.

8894 This is really a non-partisan amendment, colleagues, and  
8895 I think that all members would be proud to support this, and  
8896 I yield back.

8897 \*The Chairman. I thank the gentlewoman. The ranking  
8898 member -- oh, Mr. Hudson is recognized for five minutes.

8899 \*Mr. Hudson. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. At the beginning  
8900 of this Congress, I was honored to take over as co-chair of

8901 the Next Generation 911 Caucus to join my friend,  
8902 Congresswoman Eshoo, and work on behalf of our amazing first  
8903 responders and telecommunicators who work 24/7 to protect our  
8904 communities. This caucus has worked in a bipartisan way for  
8905 years to craft the Next Generation 911 legislation in a way  
8906 that promotes interoperable 911 networks, and updates the  
8907 infrastructure that we rely on to protect public safety and  
8908 save lives.

8909 Our 911 telecommunicators, first responders, and leaders  
8910 in the 911 field play a vital role in saving lives each and  
8911 every day. I think we can agree their work has been  
8912 critical, particularly in response to this COVID 19 pandemic.  
8913 This year has been a tough one for everyone, but 911  
8914 telecommunicators and our first responders cannot take a day  
8915 off. They are truly essential workers, and have shown  
8916 incredible dedication throughout the past year. I am proud  
8917 to work with and support them in Congress.

8918 Since the Next Generation 911 bill inclusion in the LIFT  
8919 Act, this legislation has been improved. However, it is  
8920 disappointing to have our bipartisan work rushed through this  
8921 partisan reconciliation process, rather than through regular  
8922 order, where we could thoroughly vet this program to make  
8923 sure this program would be effective for something as  
8924 important as upgrading our 911 networks. I have to say to my  
8925 colleagues, I am deeply disappointed, especially when this is



8926 an area where there is true bipartisan agreement.

8927 I think I have made clear my frustration with this  
8928 process, that we should have held hearings. This is the most  
8929 expensive piece of legislation in American history. This one  
8930 bill spends more money than the GDP of Mexico and Canada,  
8931 combined. It is a stunning amount of money, and it should  
8932 have gone through regular order. But despite my objections  
8933 on this underlying legislation, I want my colleagues to  
8934 understand I remain committed to Next Generation 911.

8935 Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And unless one of my  
8936 colleagues would like some time, I will yield back the  
8937 balance of my time.

8938 \*The Chairman. All right. Anyone else on either side  
8939 who would like to speak on the Eshoo ANS dealing with this  
8940 bill, underlying bill?

8941 \*Voice. So Rush has his hand up, but I think it is a  
8942 leftover.

8943 \*The Chairman. Mr. Rush, are you -- is your hand up  
8944 because of the previous speech, or for this?

8945 \*Mr. Rush. Mr. Chairman?

8946 \*The Chairman. Do you want to speak on Next Generation  
8947 911?

8948 \*Mr. Rush. No. I lowered it now, Mr. Chairman.

8949 \*Voice. No, he lowered it.

8950 \*The Chairman. Okay, thank you. So then we go to --

8951           \*Voice. No, actually, we are on Doyle.

8952           \*The Chairman. Mr. Doyle is next. Mr. Doyle is  
8953 recognized for five minutes.

8954           \*Mr. Doyle. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, an  
8955 advanced and resilient 911 communications infrastructure is  
8956 is critical to the safety and security of our communities.  
8957 Americans depend on 911 communications to call for assistance  
8958 in natural disasters and other times of need.

8959           This simple, easy-to-remember number is a lifeline for  
8960 so many people when they are in dire situations. However,  
8961 legacy 911 systems are susceptible to outages that can occur  
8962 in the underlying communications network. When a storm or a  
8963 wildfire strikes, it is essential that people can still make  
8964 calls to 911 or to loved ones. And research shows -- and  
8965 current events have borne this out -- that more frequent and  
8966 intense extreme weather and climate-related events will  
8967 continue increasingly disrupting and damaging critical  
8968 infrastructure like 911 facilities.

8969           Thus, it is essential that 911 facilities are supported  
8970 by reliable sources of backup power and connectivity. The  
8971 transition to NG911 will enhance the resiliency and  
8972 reliability of the nation's 911 system, which is especially  
8973 critical during disasters. The fully IP-based and standards-  
8974 based NG911 systems will allow for more flexible network  
8975 routing options to mitigate power outages and reduce

8976 vulnerabilities.

8977           The Build Back Better Act promotes accelerated  
8978 implementation of NG911 service across the country, and will  
8979 provide significant benefits and improved emergency services  
8980 for the public, 911 professionals, and our first responders.  
8981 That is why I fully support this bill, and look forward to  
8982 its passage.

8983           And with that, Mr. Chairman, I yield back.

8984           \*The Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Doyle.

8985           Do we have anyone on the Republican side, any other  
8986 speakers?

8987           Mr. McNerney is recognized for five minutes.

8988           \*Mr. McNerney. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to  
8989 strike the last word.

8990           \*The Chairman. Mr. -- the gentleman is recognized.

8991           \*Mr. McNerney. Well, I am very happy that the Build  
8992 Back Better Act would provide \$10 billion in grants for the  
8993 implementation of the Next Generation 911 services. This  
8994 will make the 911 services more effective, resilient, and  
8995 accessible. Without question, it will save lives.

8996           In particular, I am excited that it will help address  
8997 one of the most gaping holes in our 911 system today: the  
8998 lack of interoperability between 911 systems. Today, if one  
8999 of my constituents is visiting Washington, D.C., for example,  
9000 and needs to place a 911 call because she knows about a

9001 family member with a life-threatening emergency back home,  
9002 and is unable to make such a call, here is what happens. If  
9003 she calls 911, a local operator in D.C. will answer the call,  
9004 but will not be able to transfer that call to local 911  
9005 operators in my district. The person placing the call would  
9006 have to then scramble to find the phone number for the local  
9007 police department in California, and the time spent doing  
9008 that could mean the difference between life and death for the  
9009 family member that she is trying to help.

9010         The legislation we are considering today will help this  
9011 problem by increasing the interoperability of 911 systems in  
9012 different jurisdictions, so that 911 operator is one  
9013 jurisdiction able to help the transfer to a 911 operator in  
9014 another jurisdiction. This is one of the many ways that the  
9015 legislation will help improve 911 services.

9016         I am also pleased that the legislation, as strengthened  
9017 by this amendment, takes important steps to address the  
9018 growing cyber threats that our nation faces, and the risks  
9019 that this poses to our 911 systems. I urge my colleagues to  
9020 support the ANS, and I yield back to the chair.

9021         \*The Chairman. I thank the gentleman. Again, no -- we  
9022 are going to go to Angie Craig, I guess. Ms. Craig is  
9023 recognized for five minutes.

9024         \*Ms. Craig. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to strike  
9025 the last word and speak in support of the items within

9026     Subtitle K.

9027             \*The Chairman.   The gentlewoman is recognized.

9028             \*Ms. Craig.   Mr. Chairman, in 2018 we celebrated the  
9029     50th anniversary of the first 911 call.

9030             Over the years, 911 has become a simple and universally  
9031     recognized number that people call in an emergency to get  
9032     help from law enforcement, fire services, and emergency  
9033     medical services.   An estimated 240 million calls are made to  
9034     911 in the United States each year.

9035             Because of technological advances in telecommunications  
9036     over the last 50 years, today people can communicate in ways  
9037     that were not even contemplated when the 911 system was first  
9038     created, such as wireless phones, text, and video messages,  
9039     social media, and IP-enabled devices.   That means that 911  
9040     systems must also adapt and take advantage of technological  
9041     advances.

9042             However, many of the country's 911 systems continue to  
9043     rely on outdated communications technology.   The Build Back  
9044     Better Act provides the essential funding needed to enable  
9045     states and tribes to replace these critical systems with new  
9046     and advanced technology that will establish a national  
9047     framework with increased technological capabilities at the  
9048     nation's 911 systems, facilitate coordination among federal,  
9049     state, and local governments, and ensure interoperability.

9050             I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, which

9051 will save lives and support our law enforcement and first  
9052 responders.

9053 And with that, Mr. Chairman, I yield back.

9054 \*The Chairman. Thank you. All right. So that, I  
9055 think, closes those who want to speak on the underlying ANS  
9056 for the Next Generation 911. Is there -- are there any  
9057 amendments to the ANS?

9058 You have one? Okay, the gentleman -- you have a -- is  
9059 it labeled, Mr. -- oh, Mr. Johnson? Mr. Johnson?

9060 \*Mr. Johnson. Yes, Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at  
9061 the desk.

9062 \*The Chairman. Do we know which one that is?

9063 \*Mr. Johnson. It is CT, Charlie Tango, 13.

9064 \*The Clerk. Yes, I have it.

9065 \*The Chairman. You have that? Okay.

9066 \*The Clerk. Amendment to Subtitle K, offered by Mr.  
9067 Johnson of Ohio. Page 3, line 19 --

9068 \*The Chairman. The clerk -- I am sorry, without  
9069 objection, the reading of the Johnson amendment will be  
9070 dispensed with.

9071 [The amendment of Mr. Johnson follows:]

9072

9073 \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

9074

9075           \*The Chairman. And the gentleman from Ohio is  
9076 recognized for five minutes.

9077           \*Mr. Johnson. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As you know,  
9078 this legislation includes 10 billion in grants for the  
9079 implementation of Next Generation 911 services. This is  
9080 intended to make 911 services more accessible, effective, and  
9081 resilient. It is also intended to better protect first  
9082 responders by allowing callers to send text messages, images,  
9083 or videos to 911, so they can better assess the nature of the  
9084 emergency before responding.

9085           So my amendment is common-sense and straightforward. If  
9086 a jurisdiction has made any effort or taken action, including  
9087 voting on ordinances, budgets, legislation, or resolutions to  
9088 defund or eliminate law enforcement, they are not eligible to  
9089 receive funding through this grant program.

9090           Let me be clear. Law enforcement and first responders  
9091 play a critical role in our society. They protect the law  
9092 abiding from the lawless. It is vitally important they  
9093 receive the necessary funding and training to keep our  
9094 community safe. The ability to call 911 and be connected as  
9095 quickly as possible to first responders is a critical and  
9096 lifesaving public service for members of every American  
9097 community. And I fully support funding law enforcement to  
9098 ensure they have the tools necessary to keep their  
9099 communities safe, and respond to emergencies, including

9100 upgraded 911 services.

9101 But the decisions some activist local politicians have  
9102 made to deny the citizens they serve these vital lifesaving  
9103 public services is both reckless and irresponsible. Not  
9104 surprisingly, some of these jurisdictions, including major  
9105 cities run by Democrats that have defunded their police, are  
9106 now singing a different tune, now that they have seen the  
9107 devastating consequences of increased crime in their cities,  
9108 including murder rates up by double digits in many cities.

9109 In Oakland, California, city lawmakers in April restored  
9110 3.3 million of the 29 million in police cuts, and the mayor  
9111 has also proposed to increase the budget by 24 million, which  
9112 would restore nearly all of the funding. Baltimore Mayor  
9113 Brandon Scott, who led efforts, as a city councilman, to cut  
9114 the police budget by 22 million, has now proposed to increase  
9115 the police budget by 27 million. According to a survey by  
9116 the Police Executive Research Forum, nearly half of the 258  
9117 police agencies surveyed said their budgets have been or were  
9118 likely to be cut, and the cuts prevent purchases of new  
9119 vehicle and police equipment first, followed by training,  
9120 hiring, new officers, and overtime spending.

9121 These communities defunding the police are not  
9122 preventing crime from happening. They are preventing first  
9123 responders from having the necessary tools and equipment to  
9124 respond to emergencies and prevent crime. These local



9125 politicians are endangering the lives of law-abiding -- of  
9126 the law abiding, because their actions are actually  
9127 increasing the crime rates.

9128         Mr. Chairman, why should the Federal Government provide  
9129 additional funding to jurisdictions that have chosen to not  
9130 provide critical funding for law enforcement? You can't  
9131 have it both ways. You can't vote to defund or eliminate  
9132 your law enforcement, and also ask American taxpayers to help  
9133 you upgrade your 911 services to reach these same first  
9134 responders.

9135         If a jurisdiction doesn't feel the need to have law  
9136 enforcement, who exactly are they expecting to be on the  
9137 other end of the line when it -- when their citizens make  
9138 emergency calls?

9139         Without funding, what resources are they supposed to  
9140 respond to an emergency with to save lives and prevent  
9141 threats to their community?

9142         Mr. Chairman, if communities decide they don't want law  
9143 enforcement, then it stands to reason that these communities  
9144 don't need funding to upgrade the tools to communicate with  
9145 law enforcement. After all, if a jurisdiction cuts funding  
9146 for their police, they could redirect their funding to their  
9147 911 network, if they feel that that is necessary. But the  
9148 Federal Government, the American taxpayer, should not be  
9149 rewarding entities that do not stand with our police.

9150           And I encourage my colleagues to support this common-  
9151   sense amendment, and with that I yield back, Mr. Chairman.

9152           \*The Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Johnson. I recognize Ms.  
9153   Eshoo now on the Johnson amendment for five minutes.

9154           \*Ms. Eshoo. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last  
9155   word.

9156           You know, the long history and practice of our committee  
9157   is that we give our colleagues at least two hours to consider  
9158   amendments of this type. You gave us not even a half hour.

9159           I think this amendment, I am sorry to say, I think it is  
9160   ridiculous, and it is an insult. There are no definitions to  
9161   critical provisions. The underlying legislation already says  
9162   that entities are not eligible if they divert 911 fees. And  
9163   I made sure that that was in it. I feel very, very strongly  
9164   about that.

9165           You know, you are either for finally addressing this --  
9166   we all know what the shortcomings are. We know what 911  
9167   represents. We understand what interoperability is. We know  
9168   that, in so many situations, 911 is -- can be a matter of  
9169   life or death. These are funds that really are an investment  
9170   in each one of our communities, in every single one of our  
9171   congressional districts. This needs to finally be stood up  
9172   in our country.

9173           And to -- I have to say that I am disappointed in how  
9174   the amendment was put up, because we don't do things five

9175 minutes before, and I think that the body of work that is  
9176 represented in this amendment really speaks to itself. It  
9177 represents the needs that have not been met in our country.

9178 Every single one of us, in addition, are consistently  
9179 asked by our constituents about what we are going to do about  
9180 cybersecurity. Well, here is your opportunity. Here is our  
9181 opportunity. This is for everyone.

9182 So I really consider this a nonpartisan amendment, and  
9183 it is about time. It is 2021. We have been on this since  
9184 before the turn of the century, to try and get this to be  
9185 stood up, and we finally have it here. And I don't think  
9186 that this amendment really deserves any support because, as I  
9187 said, the underlying legislation already says that entities  
9188 are not eligible if they divert any 911 fees.

9189 So I don't know if --

9190 \*Voice. Can you --

9191 \*Ms. Eshoo. I would be happy to yield.

9192 \*Voice. -- since we are here already?

9193 \*Ms. Eshoo. Is someone asking for me to yield to them,  
9194 or is that just background noise?

9195 \*The Chairman. I think it is just background. I  
9196 would --

9197 \*Ms. Eshoo. Oh, okay. Well, with that, Mr. Chairman, I  
9198 yield back. Thank you.

9199 \*The Chairman. Thank you. Let me urge everyone, if

9200 they are virtual, to put themselves on mute if they are not  
9201 speaking.

9202 And also, if you are -- if you don't want to speak, and  
9203 your hand is up, left over from before, please lower your  
9204 hand, because we have got a lot of them here, and I think  
9205 most of them are from the previous amendment.

9206 But I do believe that Mr. Walberg is new. Oh, Guthrie?  
9207 Okay, Mr. Guthrie, and then we will go to Mr. Walberg. Mr.  
9208 Guthrie is recognized for five minutes.

9209 \*Mr. Guthrie. Thank you, Mr. Chair, and I am one that  
9210 likes as much of notice on amendments as possible, as well.  
9211 But we just found out this subtitle was coming up, and it is  
9212 coming up out of the order that we thought was going to be  
9213 moving forward, so that is the reason that we didn't have  
9214 this amendment in the timeframe. So it wasn't any  
9215 discourtesy, it was just reacting to what the -- was coming  
9216 across the floor.

9217 And if you think back on this, this is the largest  
9218 spending bill, as my friend from North Carolina said a couple  
9219 of times, in American history. And we were only given 72  
9220 hours to review the 532-page and over \$1 trillion legislation  
9221 we are considering today, and have been noticed that we are -  
9222 - will only have 48 hours to debate it. So the timing is an  
9223 issue for all of us, and disappointing that that is the  
9224 situation that we are in.

9225           And I would like to voice my support for this amendment.  
9226   It prohibits entities that have defunded the police from  
9227   receiving grants under the title to 911, and understand what  
9228   was said previously, that you can't divert 911 grants. But  
9229   if you are defunding the police, and receiving -- you  
9230   shouldn't be receiving 911 -- additional 911 money is our  
9231   point.

9232           I don't support defunding or disbanding the police. The  
9233   men and women in law enforcement put their lives on the line  
9234   every day to uphold the law in our community. In Kentucky  
9235   our frontline responders have been on the front lines of the  
9236   opioid, and among many other issues they deal with on a daily  
9237   basis. We owe them our sincere appreciation and gratitude.

9238           Next Generation 911 has historically had bipartisan  
9239   support, and will allow law enforcement and other first  
9240   responders to better assess the nature of an emergency and  
9241   reach people in need. We should direct this funding to  
9242   communities to support their first responders.

9243           I encourage my colleagues to support this amendment, and  
9244   I will yield time, if -- to Mr. -- my friend from Florida,  
9245   Mr. Bilirakis.

9246           \*Mr. Bilirakis. Thank you, thank you. I appreciate it  
9247   very much. It is truly a sad state of affairs when we see  
9248   localities defunding their police departments and  
9249   disrespecting the very heroes who put their lives on the line

9250 to protect their communities. As we memorialize the 20th  
9251 anniversary of September 11th, we need to reunify as a  
9252 nation, and like we did then, by showing localities the  
9253 Federal Government stands by our heroes.

9254 This amendment will ensure that Next Generation 911  
9255 funding is prioritized to those communities that never swayed  
9256 from backing the blue. Again, prioritizing those  
9257 communities. These localities that already show they honor  
9258 their police force should receive prioritized Federal funding  
9259 for enhancing that relationship between the community and  
9260 their heroes.

9261 Don't let those who seek to defund our heroes stand at  
9262 the front of the line. That is all we are saying.

9263 Lastly, I must take this opportunity to thank all the  
9264 first responders in my counties, in Pasco, Pinellas, and  
9265 Hillsborough County of the great State of Florida, that  
9266 protect my communities. Thank you very much.

9267 And I don't know if anyone else --

9268 \*Mr. Guthrie. Thank you. Would anybody else like the  
9269 time, or I will -- their own time?

9270 \*Mr. Bilirakis. I yield back to --

9271 \*Mr. Guthrie. I will -- if no one else seeks my time, I  
9272 yield back.

9273 \*The Chairman. Thank you. Do we have any Democrat who  
9274 is in the room?

9275           If not, it looks like Mr. McNerney is next. Mr.

9276 McNerney is recognized for five minutes.

9277           [Pause.]

9278           \*The Chairman. Or maybe he left his hand up. We will  
9279 go to Ms. Craig for five minutes.

9280           \*Ms. Craig. Mr. Chairman, I move the -- to strike the  
9281 last word, and speak in opposition of this amendment.

9282           \*The Chairman. The gentlewoman is recognized.

9283           \*Ms. Craig. Mr. Chairman, I just felt compelled to  
9284 speak out, because this is not an amendment that actually  
9285 seeks to do anything. My colleagues across the aisle, if  
9286 they had read the ANS, they would know that this ANS actually  
9287 funds law enforcement at \$10 billion. So your argument that  
9288 this weakens police is just shallow.

9289           You know, I am sick and tired of allowing you to talk  
9290 about this defund the police movement, when not a single  
9291 action in the Democratic Congress has sought to do just that.  
9292 And I am going to tell you, you talk about crime rates across  
9293 this country, if you are going to talk about violent crime  
9294 being on the rise across the nation, you know, maybe we  
9295 should also look at Republican-run cities like Tulsa,  
9296 Jacksonville, and Fresno, and in cities that have increased  
9297 police spending over the last year, like Houston and  
9298 Nashville.

9299           My colleagues, we are in the middle of the largest

9300 public health crisis in our lifetimes. We are in the middle  
9301 of a gun violence epidemic in our country. We are in the  
9302 middle of a mental health challenge in our country. We are  
9303 in the middle of extreme poverty, and people being laid off  
9304 as a result of a public health crisis. So I need my  
9305 Republican colleagues to read the damn ANS, and I need each  
9306 of you to stop spinning this for political purposes to  
9307 Democrats, because I refuse to sit here and take it anymore.

9308 Mr. Chairman, I yield back.

9309 \*The Chairman. I thank the gentlewoman.

9310 \*Voice. I think it is Walberg.

9311 \*The Chairman. Mr. Walberg?

9312 \*Voice. No, no, Rodgers.

9313 \*The Chairman. Oh, the ranking member is recognized for  
9314 five minutes.

9315 \*Mrs. Rodgers. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. This amendment  
9316 is pretty straightforward, and I would submit that we are in  
9317 the middle of a movement that is actively seeking to defund  
9318 police all across this country.

9319 I would also like to remind the members who object to  
9320 the hour this amendment was filed that we didn't receive the  
9321 final text of this bill until 11:00 a.m. on Sunday,  
9322 yesterday, 11:00 a.m.

9323 But back to the amendment. Cities and states across the  
9324 country are investing in foundational technology to bring us



9325 the Next Generation 911 services Americans have come to rely  
9326 on in the time of an emergency. As technology has evolved,  
9327 so have the expectations of Americans in distress, and Next  
9328 Generation 911 will allow Americans to send pictures, videos,  
9329 or texts to help law enforcement respond effectively.

9330 This new technology will also help our law enforcement  
9331 officers be safe when they are responding to dangerous  
9332 situations, which is why we should protect taxpayer funding  
9333 from going to places who choose not to support the dangerous  
9334 work our law enforcement officers do to protect Americans.

9335 Across the country crime rates are skyrocketing faster  
9336 than inflation. Preliminary government estimates suggest  
9337 that homicides could be up by 25 percent this year. Yet in  
9338 the face of this massive crime wave, we continue to see  
9339 activists across the country seeking to defund the police.  
9340 The town of Savage, Minnesota is soon voting on a measure to  
9341 completely eliminate their police department. And according  
9342 to recent news reports, a former police officer says he is no  
9343 longer willing to travel into Minneapolis after dark, because  
9344 of increased crime.

9345 And while some states and cities are not working to  
9346 explicitly defund the police, they are doing everything  
9347 within their power to make it impossible for them to do their  
9348 jobs. In my home state of Washington, for example, law  
9349 enforcement officers have expressed to me that they are no

9350 longer confident that they can take actions needed to keep  
9351 our communities safe, due to the state's new so-called police  
9352 accountability laws. These laws were written to score  
9353 political points, with no regard for how they actually impact  
9354 men and women who put on the uniform to keep our streets and  
9355 our families safe.

9356         We have all been home. I have been talking to a lot of  
9357 different police officers and sheriff deputies in eastern  
9358 Washington. Morale is at an all-time low. Many are leaving  
9359 Washington State. Just last week the Spokane Police  
9360 Department had to temporarily eliminate a traffic unit, due  
9361 to staffing shortages. This is not what we want our brave  
9362 law enforcement officers to be facing. Rather, we should be  
9363 putting resources towards securing our communities and  
9364 supporting efforts to keep Americans safe.

9365         Unfortunately, some are standing by, turning their backs  
9366 on men and women in uniform who put their lives on the line  
9367 daily to keep us and our community safe. All of it begs the  
9368 question: If you eliminate the police department, and there  
9369 is no law enforcement officers to respond to emergencies,  
9370 what use is there having a 911 service?

9371         There are no consequences for these actions taken to  
9372 defund the police, and I believe that we need to start  
9373 sending a message that Congress cares, that Congress supports  
9374 law and order. It is pretty fundamental to a nation made of

9375 laws that there is right and wrong, good and evil, and that  
9376 there will be consequences for bad behavior.

9377 This amendment is simple. A vote for this amendment is  
9378 a vote to support law enforcement. A vote against it is to  
9379 continue to support activists that want to defund the police.

9380 I yield back.

9381 \*Ms. Castor. I move to strike the last word, Mr.  
9382 Chairman.

9383 \*The Chairman. The gentlewoman from Florida, Ms.  
9384 Castor, is recognized for five minutes.

9385 \*Ms. Castor. I yield my time to Chairman Pallone.

9386 \*Voice. No, no, Ms. Craig.

9387 \*Ms. Castor. Oh, excuse me, I yield my time to  
9388 Congresswoman Craig.

9389 \*Ms. Craig. Thank you so much --

9390 \*The Chairman. Ms. Craig?

9391 \*Ms. Craig. -- Ms. Castor. Thank you so much.

9392 I just wanted to respond to the ranking member's  
9393 assertion that Savage, Minnesota is doing such a thing.  
9394 Savage, Minnesota is just an absolutely beautiful town, with  
9395 a great police department, in a mostly Republican district in  
9396 the 2nd district of Minnesota. So I would just encourage  
9397 Mrs. McMorris to check her notes, and to have her staff check  
9398 her facts, because that is certainly not true.

9399 Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and I yield back.

9400           \*The Chairman. The time is with Ms. Castor.

9401           You yield to Ms. Schakowsky?

9402           \*Ms. Schakowsky. Yes, and I yield to Congresswoman  
9403 Eshoo.

9404           \*Ms. Eshoo. I thank the gentlewoman.

9405           \*Ms. Schakowsky. What?

9406           \*Ms. Eshoo. You know, my response to the ranking member  
9407 here is that the Major County Sheriffs of America support  
9408 this. The Major Cities Chiefs Association supports this.  
9409 The National Sheriffs Association supports this. The  
9410 International Association of Chiefs of Police support this.  
9411 The International Association of Fire Chiefs support this.  
9412 The Metropolitan Fire Chiefs Association supports this. The  
9413 National Association of State EMS officials supports this.  
9414 The Association of Public Safety Communications Officials  
9415 supports this. The National Association of State 911  
9416 Administrators supports this. The National Emergency Number  
9417 Association supports this.

9418           Are they some wild-eyed socialist? Are these people  
9419 that are less than reputable?

9420           You know, I think you want to develop some talking  
9421 points. Go someplace else. Go someplace else. This is  
9422 nearly a disgrace to do this, relative to E911 services in  
9423 our country. I think you picked the wrong place with the  
9424 wrong debate on this. I can't tell you how disappointed I

9425 am.

9426           These are the blue chip organizations in our country  
9427 supporting what is in this legislation. And it is needed.  
9428 It is needed. Now you bring up nonsense, in plain English.  
9429 I yield the balance of my time.

9430           \*Ms. Castor. I yield back.

9431           \*The Chairman. All right. So the gentlewoman from  
9432 Florida, Ms. Castor, has yielded back the time. Do we have a  
9433 Republican?

9434           \*Voice. Mr. Bucshon is online, but I think Mr. McKinley  
9435 is more senior.

9436           \*The Chairman. Mr. McKinley is more senior. Mr.  
9437 McKinley is recognized for five minutes.

9438           \*Mr. McKinley. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Let me --  
9439 let's just start quickly with some facts.

9440           In Minneapolis, between December 11th and March 28th, in  
9441 just barely over three months, murders in Minneapolis rose 46  
9442 percent from the same year -- the year prior. This came  
9443 after Minneapolis City Council unanimously approved cutting  
9444 \$8 million from the police department.

9445           Or look at Portland, Oregon. The city commissioners of  
9446 Portland voted in mid-June of 2020 to cut nearly \$16 million  
9447 from the police budget. And the Antifa protesters wanted to  
9448 cut \$50 million. So as a result, from July 20 to February  
9449 21, homicides jumped 270 percent, compared to the same period

9450 the year before. In the first two months of this year alone,  
9451 the first of the President's -- Biden's presidency, Portland  
9452 has reported an additional 17 murders, a 1,600 percent  
9453 increase from the single murder rate during the first 2  
9454 months of 2020.

9455         So, Mr. Chairman, every year there are over 60,000  
9456 assaults on law enforcement personnel across America. Nearly  
9457 1,400 police officers have died in the line of duty since  
9458 2016, 270 of these deaths have occurred in this year alone.  
9459 These aren't just numbers. These are fathers and mothers,  
9460 husbands and wives, sons and daughters, brothers and sisters.  
9461 So that every one of us and our families can be safe, these  
9462 officers risk their lives every day. They face the evil that  
9463 lurks in the shadows of our community.

9464         So shame on the communities that defund their police.  
9465 Cities have an obligation to provide law enforcement  
9466 personnel with the resources necessary to do their job, and  
9467 to go home safely to their families. So for once, for once  
9468 today, Mr. Chairman, let's all put aside our partisan  
9469 differences and bickering, and support Mr. Johnson's  
9470 amendment.

9471         I yield back.

9472         \*The Chairman. Thank you. Next is -- Mr. O'Halleran is  
9473 recognized for five minutes.

9474         \*Mr. O'Halleran. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to

9475 strike the last word.

9476 \*The Chairman. The gentleman is recognized.

9477 \*Mr. O'Halleran. I was surprised to see this bill -- or  
9478 not the bill, the amendment.

9479 I spent quite a bit of my time in life in the Chicago  
9480 Police Department. I would think that, if you have taken a  
9481 look at where this bill is heading -- and I am a police  
9482 officer that has answered many, many calls, ones where I  
9483 would wish that I had the opportunity to know ahead of time,  
9484 before I got there, what the offender looked like, what they  
9485 were armed with, how many people were around there, what the  
9486 risk factors were. This is the type of technology that we  
9487 are looking at it now, and into the future.

9488 Why would we even think of saying it is all right in  
9489 some cities to not have this technology available to save a  
9490 police officer's life, or a fireman's life, or where to go  
9491 save a citizen, and how to overcome some of the issues that  
9492 are out there about shootings and other -- police officer  
9493 shootings, or whatever, and overcome those problems before  
9494 you even got to the scene, because you knew what you were  
9495 going to be addressing?

9496 I have been surprised at many, many crime scenes, where  
9497 I got there and, all of a sudden, shots were being fired at  
9498 me or my partner. I have seen partners killed. So I don't  
9499 understand this process where, because we want to go after

9500 one group because they are doing something -- I am not a  
9501 believer in defunding the police, but I am also not a  
9502 defender in making sure that we are going to take such  
9503 technology and help us lose police officers, lose family  
9504 members, have those -- have the fire department not be able  
9505 to do its job, and understand what that scene looked like  
9506 ahead of time.

9507       Technology is technology. All police officers deserve  
9508 to have the best technology available. And the idea that we  
9509 are going down this path because of some other issue that  
9510 needs to be resolved in our country, this is not the way to  
9511 do it. The way to address these issues is to understand the  
9512 role that this technology is going to play in saving lives,  
9513 in making sure we are there to help victims, that if an  
9514 ambulance is arriving at the scene, they know ahead of time,  
9515 and can see what they are going to be up against immediately,  
9516 not have that time wasted.

9517       If you have ever been to a crime scene, you know seconds  
9518 count. If you have ever been responding to a crime scene,  
9519 you would know that the more information you have before you  
9520 get there, the safer you are as a police officer, the safer  
9521 that all those people that are at that crime scene or fire  
9522 scene are going to be, and the better results you are going  
9523 to have.

9524       And I, for one, am not going to vote for anything that



9525 will jeopardize the life and safety of our first responders.

9526 And I yield.

9527 \*The Chairman. Thank you. Mr. Bucshon is next.

9528 \*Mr. Bucshon. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

9529 \*The Chairman. He is virtual.

9530 \*Mr. Bucshon. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

9531 \*The Chairman. You are recognized for five minutes.

9532 \*Mr. Bucshon. For the time, yes, I move to strike the  
9533 last word, thank you.

9534 I just -- listening to this debate, I just want to say,  
9535 you know, I am not sure that law enforcement and the agencies  
9536 that were mentioned would be as supportive, if they knew the  
9537 money was going to areas and to people that actually are  
9538 trying to defund them, and take them off the streets.

9539 So yes, of course, I mean, I support 911, and I think it  
9540 needs -- the technology needs to be improved, and every  
9541 citizen needs to be protected by that. But on the other  
9542 hand, this indignant discussion we are having about Democrats  
9543 tired of hearing from Republicans about this defund the  
9544 police movement, and then saying all these police agencies  
9545 support their legislation, you know, well, I am not sure they  
9546 would if you knew -- they knew all the money was going to go  
9547 to areas that actually are actively trying to eliminate them.

9548 So, I mean, I think, if Democrats don't want to continue  
9549 to hear from people like us on the Republican side, then

9550 stand up against the groups and the politicians in your own  
9551 party, in the House, that are actively out there every day,  
9552 campaigning against our police officers and our first  
9553 responders, and decreasing the morale.

9554 I can speak for my district, that I know that the morale  
9555 is extremely low. Trying to recruit new officers is almost  
9556 impossible. And it is not because locally here we have a  
9557 defund the police movement, we don't at all. In fact, people  
9558 love law enforcement here. But it is because of a national  
9559 narrative being promoted by Democrat organizations. And  
9560 Democrat politicians in Washington won't stand up and say  
9561 that it is wrong.

9562 So I just want to make the point. Somebody said, well,  
9563 they are tired of hearing from this. Well, I am tired of  
9564 hearing things like this, trying to cover people's political  
9565 hind ends when they refuse to stand up and protect our law  
9566 enforcement officers across this country who are risking  
9567 their lives every day. I just had another law enforcement  
9568 officer killed about a month ago.

9569 So, I mean, as a physician, you know, we have a problem  
9570 with violence in our cities. When I went to medical school  
9571 in Chicago in the 1980s, the same exact areas of the city 35  
9572 years ago, where we have violence issues today, were exactly  
9573 the same, and for the same reasons.

9574 But, you know, you hear politicians in -- around the

9575 country in large American cities saying, well, the problem is  
9576 police brutality, and the problem is it is the police  
9577 officers that are causing all the problems. But you know, if  
9578 you go into neighborhoods, even in Evansville, Indiana or  
9579 around this country, you know, you don't have support for  
9580 police officers, and -- because the politicians that  
9581 represent them don't have the police officers' backs, and the  
9582 citizens know it.

9583         So this is a good amendment, because we shouldn't be  
9584 sending any money for things about this type of thing to  
9585 areas that want to eliminate law enforcement, who want to  
9586 send social workers to a domestic violence incident, for  
9587 heaven's sakes. And have them killed, because, as probably  
9588 most people know, that is one of the most dangerous places  
9589 police officers go. Routine traffic stops and domestic  
9590 violence, and we are really -- some areas are trying to put  
9591 traffic stops into the hands of civilians, believe it or not.

9592         So I have lived through it. I lived in Chicago in the  
9593 mid-1980s. My son lives there now. Nothing is happening.  
9594 You know why it is not happening? And this is hard for, I  
9595 think, people to take. It is because -- I would argue that  
9596 it is not affecting the right areas of the city for anybody  
9597 to do anything about it. And, you know, until it does,  
9598 nothing is going to happen.

9599         And then you have people like me who are constantly

9600 being called racist and misogynist if we come up with logical  
9601 solutions to try to help.

9602       So I am, frankly, also tired of hearing from Democrats  
9603 about this issue. You know, and if you don't want to hear us  
9604 talk about the defund the police, stand up against the  
9605 leftists in your party around the country, and the groups  
9606 that are promoting this, and do something about it. Until  
9607 that time, we are going to have amendments like this, and not  
9608 give them any money.

9609       I yield back.

9610       \*The Chairman. All right. Anybody else?

9611       Oh, Mr. Soto is recognized for five minutes.

9612       \*Voice. I am still up

9613       \*Mr. Soto. I move to strike the last word.

9614       \*The Chairman. The gentleman is recognized.

9615       \*Mr. Soto. What a great irony we find ourselves in.

9616 This subsection funds the 911 system. It funds the police.  
9617 So what are you talking about? You want to send a message?  
9618 Stop the partisan amendments, make this a bipartisan vote on  
9619 this subsection. Vote for the Next Generation 911  
9620 subsection. If not, you are the ones being partisan. You  
9621 are the ones voting against public safety. And if you vote  
9622 no on this subsection, you are the only ones who are voting  
9623 to defund the police.

9624       I yield back.

9625           \*Mr. Doyle. Will the gentleman yield? Will the  
9626 gentleman yield? Will the gentleman yield?

9627           \*The Chairman. Who is requesting the time?

9628           \*Mr. Doyle. Mr. Doyle.

9629           \*The Chairman. You can have your own time.

9630           \*Mr. Soto. Yes, I yield to Mr. --

9631           \*The Chairman. All right, Mr. Doyle, he yields to you.  
9632 Go ahead.

9633           \*Mr. Doyle. I wasn't going to speak, but this is  
9634 ridiculous. This is a BS amendment, and everybody knows it.  
9635 And you sit over there and lecture us about standing up to  
9636 the left?

9637           How about you stand up to the insurrectionists that  
9638 attacked this Capitol on January 6th, and the former  
9639 President who led that insurrection?

9640           You guys don't say boo to him, because you are all  
9641 afraid of him. You are afraid to stand up for what has been  
9642 going on in this country. And don't sit here and lecture  
9643 Democrats about standing up to the left.

9644           This bill is pro-police. This bill helps our first  
9645 responders and our police officers, as Mr. O'Halleran  
9646 demonstrated. We don't need any lectures from you over there  
9647 in the Republican Party about standing up to anything. You  
9648 guys have been sitting there with your heads in your lap,  
9649 afraid to even say a word, because you are going to get

9650     primaried by this right-wing squad that -- this 30 percent  
9651     that are still with this man that was a traitor to this  
9652     country. So we don't need any lectures from you about  
9653     standing up. You guys need to start standing up for what has  
9654     been going on in this country that has been the root of a lot  
9655     of violence in this country. And we got a demonstration  
9656     coming up here this coming weekend, and we have to put the  
9657     fences up around the Capitol, because you guys have allowed  
9658     this to happen because you haven't stood up to it. So don't  
9659     lecture me about it.

9660             \*Mr. Butterfield. It had to be said. Thank you.

9661             \*Mr. Soto. And I yield back.

9662             \*The Chairman. All right. Mr. Walberg is next for five  
9663     minutes.

9664             \*Mr. Walberg. Mr. Chairman?

9665             \*The Chairman. Yes, you are recognized for five  
9666     minutes, Mr. Walberg.

9667             \*Mr. Walberg. Thank you.

9668             \*The Chairman. No?

9669             \*Mr. Walberg. Well, I don't plan to lecture anybody.

9670             \*The Chairman. Does he want to be recognized?

9671             \*Mr. Walberg. I want to be -- strike the last word.

9672             \*The Chairman. Mr. Walberg, you are recognized if you  
9673     want to be.

9674             \*Mr. Walberg. I do want to be. Can you hear me?

9675           \*The Chairman. Yes.

9676           \*Mr. Walberg. Yes. Hey, I am not planning to lecture  
9677 anybody. I think we struck a nerve, though. I think we  
9678 struck a good nerve. And trying to put on us that we don't  
9679 want to support police is strange.

9680           I think you need to read the bill and the amendment.  
9681 The amendment does what I think, allegedly, you want to do,  
9682 as well: make sure that dollars go for 911 funding across  
9683 the country, Next Gen, to make it all work, and work in the  
9684 best way, and we don't waste any of it.

9685           Our amendment simply says let's not waste any of it. If  
9686 you don't want police support, and you don't want to fund the  
9687 police, then deal with it yourself. But don't let -- make  
9688 the rest of us have to spend money on entities that don't  
9689 support their police. It is not the Republicans that have  
9690 been standing with Antifa and others. It is not we who have  
9691 been standing, like the Vice President of the United States,  
9692 who bailed out people who want to defund the police and  
9693 rioted, it is not us at all.

9694           This amendment is worth supporting. This amendment  
9695 sends dollars where it needs to go. It supports a good  
9696 program of Next Gen 911. This amendment would condition Next  
9697 Gen 911 funding for entities and municipalities that do not  
9698 engage in defund-the-police laws, resolutions, ordinances, or  
9699 the like. This amendment focuses on protecting American

9700 safety, and supporting law enforcement officers. Read the  
9701 amendment.

9702         Democrats across the country are acting to defund the  
9703 police, and you know it. And even worse, to eliminate police  
9704 forces all together, and you know it. According to new  
9705 reports, cities that defunded police departments have seen an  
9706 uptick in certain crimes. For example, in the City of  
9707 Austin, Texas, the city council unanimously voted to cut  
9708 roughly one-third of the city's police budget. That is \$150  
9709 million. These budget cuts eliminated 150 open jobs, and  
9710 delayed police force recruiting classes. Not surprisingly,  
9711 as of February 2021, aggravated assaults were up 26 percent  
9712 in Austin.

9713         Whether Chicago, my home town, or Portland, this  
9714 increase in crime is being reflected in Democrat cities  
9715 across the country. These policies are putting lives at  
9716 risk. The very least we can do for our frontline officers is  
9717 support them amidst a horrific crime increase, and not waste  
9718 money. During the month of August I saw firsthand what the  
9719 lives officers are like, day in and day out. I went on ride-  
9720 alongs, met with law enforcement officers, sheriffs, chiefs  
9721 of police.

9722         In Lenawee County I rode with a drug unit, and saw  
9723 amazing work that was being done, and a special enforcement  
9724 starting in the middle of June. It ended at the end of



9725 August, and it took only five days for drug -- or gun  
9726 offenses to go down to zero because of strong enforcement.  
9727 Those dollars were spent well. That made our cities safer.  
9728 That is what we want to see.

9729 We saw a sheriff of Detroit last year, in the summer of  
9730 violence that went on. Did you read about Detroit burning?  
9731 No, you didn't. Why? Because this sheriff, who happened to  
9732 be a Republican, but nonetheless, this sheriff walked with  
9733 his -- with the demonstrators, with the people that wanted to  
9734 protest, and he said, "I will walk arm in arm with you, but  
9735 you are not going to burn down my city.'" They didn't. And  
9736 they had the opportunity to speak very clearly.

9737 Those are the cities and law enforcement officials we  
9738 want 911 dollars going to in this package.

9739 So with that, I thank my colleague from Ohio for  
9740 bringing this important issue to the forefront. I see  
9741 absolutely no reason why my Democratic colleagues would vote  
9742 no.

9743 And I now yield time to Representative Johnson.

9744 \*Voice. Johnson.

9745 \*The Chairman. Oh, Johnson?

9746 \*Mr. Johnson. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think I am  
9747 going to yield back to Mr. Walberg. I think I am going to  
9748 get some time here, in a second.

9749 \*Mr. Walberg. Well, I thank --

9750           \*The Chairman. Mr. Walberg, it is your time.

9751           \*Mr. Walberg. I thought it was pretty important to  
9752 give --

9753           \*Mr. Bilirakis. It is all yours.

9754           \*Mr. Walberg. -- Michigan got to give something to  
9755 Ohio.

9756           But let me just end by saying I urge adoption of this  
9757 amendment. I think it is a common-sense amendment. It is an  
9758 amendment that uses the funds appropriately. It doesn't  
9759 waste it, and it gives it to the places that will use it  
9760 well.

9761           With that, I yield back.

9762           \*The Chairman. All right. Mr. Rush, your hand is up,  
9763 you are recognized for five minutes.

9764           \*Mr. Rush. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman --

9765           \*Voice. His camera.

9766           \*Mr. Rush. -- listened to so many greatest examples of  
9767 demagoguery that I have heard in all my years in the  
9768 Congress --

9769           \*The Chairman. Mr. Rush, you need to put your camera  
9770 on. The way the rules are, you got to put your camera on to  
9771 speak. I don't see it. Just put the video on.

9772           \*Mr. Rush. All right, Mr. Chairman --

9773           \*The Chairman. You are good. All right, you are  
9774 recognized for five minutes.

9775           \*Mr. Rush. Mr. Chairman, again, I have heard, over the  
9776 course of this debate on this amendment, some of the worst,  
9777 vile, most vile, demagoguery that I have heard in all of my  
9778 years of serving on this committee. I can't ever recall a  
9779 time when something that was intended for good, in the minds  
9780 and in the thoughts and in the words of some of my colleagues  
9781 from the other side have been turning -- turned into  
9782 something that is so wrong, and so senseless, and so harmful.

9783           Mr. Chairman, I have been -- in the course of my life I  
9784 have had many experiences with the police department. The  
9785 Chicago -- the very same police department that was probably  
9786 in force when Mr. O'Halleran was on it, I certainly -- my  
9787 friend from Michigan wasn't a part of this city. And there  
9788 is no way, Mr. Chairman, after all my vast experiences with  
9789 police agencies in Chicago and other places that I ever would  
9790 be a part of something that says defund the police, because I  
9791 know that my constituents, the ones I represent day in and  
9792 day out, they rely on the police. They want the police.  
9793 They are trying to develop a better relationship with the  
9794 police.

9795           But the one thing that prevents that is these wayward  
9796 outlaws who are on the police department, who want to utilize  
9797 their badge to exercise their depravity as human beings.  
9798 They want to -- the victim -- they want to victimize the  
9799 victim. There is no respect, no respect.

9800           And so when I understand the defund, or what is was  
9801   called, what you all called it, all that was was reallocation  
9802   of funds to make sure that we don't have police officers  
9803   putting their lives on the line, going and trying to deal  
9804   with a family argument, or another -- something that maybe a  
9805   social worker should be better equipped to deal with it.

9806           So, Mr. Chairman, listen. Insanity at its utmost. I  
9807   cannot even imagine some of the people who have -- supporting  
9808   this amendment, you know, you are reducing yourself to  
9809   becoming nothing but mere apparatuses of this line of  
9810   thinking, and this line of rhetoric that certainly don't say  
9811   anything, don't take into any consideration, don't even speak  
9812   to the activities of the Capitol Hill policemen who put their  
9813   lives on the line to save you and I. Who can argue with  
9814   them? Who can argue with police officers who are doing good  
9815   all across our nation?

9816           Even in the city of Chicago, two weeks ago, there was a  
9817   funeral for a young lady who everybody in this city mourned  
9818   for, because she was a good police officer. My community is  
9819   not anti-police. My district is not anti-police.

9820           But what we are -- there was a guy in Chicago named Jon  
9821   Burge, the infamous Jon Burge, who was convicted in a federal  
9822   court for torturing innocent people, and sending them to --  
9823   in jail. One of the biggest budgetary items in the budget of  
9824   the Chicago police officers is paying for judgments in the

9825 courts that have -- that said these wayward -- some of them,  
9826 not all of them. Not most of them, a few of them.

9827 \*The Chairman. Mr. Rush, you are, like, 30 -- maybe  
9828 close to a minute over.

9829 \*Mr. Rush. Mr. Chairman, this is a rat hole. Please  
9830 lift us up out of this rat hole. Please, I don't like this.  
9831 This is not something that we should be -- at this time  
9832 I yield back.

9833 \*The Chairman. All right. Thank you. I still have Mr.  
9834 Dunn, Mrs. Lesko, Ms. -- we have quite a few. So let's go to  
9835 Mr. Dunn, then.

9836 \*Voice. No.

9837 \*The Chairman. No?

9838 \*Voice. Mr. Bilirakis.

9839 \*The Chairman. Oh, Mr. Bilirakis is the more senior.

9840 \*Mr. Bilirakis. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to  
9841 strike the last word. I will yield to Mr. Johnson.

9842 \*Mr. Johnson. I thank my colleague for yielding.

9843 You know, I heard a word a few minutes ago that struck  
9844 me as kind of funny. I heard somebody used the word  
9845 "irony.'" Let me tell you what is irony. What is irony is  
9846 that the cries to defund the police have come from the  
9847 Democrat Party. That is where the cries for defunding the  
9848 police have come from, including members of the House, right  
9849 here, where we serve.

9850           And all we are trying to do with this amendment is say  
9851   let's don't give taxpayer funding to communities and  
9852   jurisdictions that have advanced the Defund the Police  
9853   movement. And clearly, as my colleague, Mr. Walberg said, we  
9854   have struck a nerve. You know, I guess, if I had advanced  
9855   the idea of defunding law enforcement, I would be offended, I  
9856   would be ashamed to stand up to it, too, because the American  
9857   people certainly are not for that.

9858           So I can tell you how we can solve this problem, and we  
9859   can end this debate, and move on to something else. Support  
9860   this amendment. Let's put your money where your mouth is.  
9861   Let's tell the American people, the communities across this  
9862   country, we stand for law enforcement, and if we are going to  
9863   provide you money for a new 911 system, we are going to  
9864   expect you to use it to enhance your law enforcement and your  
9865   first responders. That is the way to stand up, and have some  
9866   backbone, and support law enforcement. And that will do away  
9867   with this whole debate.

9868           And with that, I yield back to my colleague from  
9869   Florida.

9870           \*Mrs. Rodgers. Would the gentleman yield?

9871           \*Mr. Dunn. Are you yielding to Dunn?

9872           \*The Chairman. Wait a minute. Who is -- this is  
9873   Bilirakis's time. He is now yielding to the ranking member,  
9874   correct?

9875           \*Mr. Bilirakis. I yield to the ranking member.

9876           \*The Chairman. All right.

9877           \*Mrs. Rodgers. Thank you. I appreciate the gentleman  
9878 yielding.

9879           Coming from Washington State, we have been seeing this  
9880 in Seattle, the City of Seattle. I might just read. In a  
9881 recent article, there is a mass exodus exodus of nearly 300  
9882 officers. Response times are now 60 minutes. And when the  
9883 mayor was asked about it, about funding for the police, she  
9884 says over the past year the city council has advocated for  
9885 cutting 50 percent of the officers, threatened out-of-order  
9886 layoffs, and cut salary of former chief, Carmen Best, and her  
9887 leadership staff. City Council continues to hold millions of  
9888 dollars of department budget hostage, has yet to act on the  
9889 police department's budget proposal.

9890           I also want to -- I would like to submit this article  
9891 for the record, Mr. Chairman. This is in The Wall Street  
9892 Journal, a recent article earlier this month: "Minneapolis  
9893 vote on eliminating police department puts Democrats on  
9894 edge.'" It was in the Wall Street Journal. It talks about  
9895 the proposed change in Savage, Minnesota being pushed by  
9896 local and national progressives.

9897           And I will just read one paragraph in here. "A Savage  
9898 resident, Barb Sackett, says, 'It is crazy. It would be  
9899 complete and total lawlessness, as if it isn't already'."

9900 She is a retired airline worker, and she considers herself an  
9901 independent voter. So --

9902 \*The Chairman. You are asking the Wall Street Journal  
9903 article be --

9904 \*Mrs. Rodgers. This article, yes.

9905 \*The Chairman. As a unanimous consent request to put  
9906 this Wall Street Journal in the record?

9907 Without objection, so ordered.

9908 [The information follows:]

9909

9910 \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

9911



9912           \*Mrs. Rodgers. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

9913           The fact of the matter is morale is at an all-time low.  
9914   And as a nation who believes in law and order -- and yes, I  
9915   hear Republicans and Democrats on this committee right now  
9916   stating their support of law enforcement. This is a way that  
9917   we can make sure that we are ensuring that our law  
9918   enforcement, those that put on the uniform to defend our  
9919   communities and keep us safe and secure, have the support  
9920   that they need, along with the technology.

9921           Right now, in Spokane, Washington, our law enforcement  
9922   feel like their hands are tied behind their backs. They are  
9923   not able to respond to domestic violence incidents the way  
9924   they would like, hit and run incidences. We have a new  
9925   shelter, a women's shelter in downtown Spokane, and we can't  
9926   get the police to come out and provide the protection that is  
9927   necessary because of the limitations that have been put in  
9928   place.

9929           All that to say support this amendment. It is a way to  
9930   make sure that we are providing law enforcement the support  
9931   they need.

9932           Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

9933           \*The Chairman. Mr. Bilirakis, I guess your time has  
9934   expired. So the next is Mr. Doyle. Well --

9935           \*Voice. He spoke on somebody else's time.

9936           \*The Chairman. Oh, he spoke on someone else's time.

9937     Okay, Mr. Doyle is recognized for five minutes.

9938             \*Mr. Doyle.   Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

9939             You know, if I am reading this very poorly crafted  
9940     amendment correctly, it seems to me that, if one tiny  
9941     municipality in the state of Pennsylvania decided they were  
9942     going to defund their police department, this would deny  
9943     NG911 funds to the entire state of Pennsylvania is how I am  
9944     reading it.  And if that is true, this is a really bad  
9945     amendment.  So I would say to all members that this is  
9946     certainly not something that anybody would want to consider  
9947     voting for, beyond the fact of how this is just a blatantly  
9948     political amendment to keep resurrecting this talking point  
9949     that Republicans are obsessed with.

9950             But I would like to -- you know, if somebody thinks I am  
9951     reading that wrong, I would like to hear it.  But the way I  
9952     am reading this is any one municipality in a state that would  
9953     say that they are going to defund their police department  
9954     would make their entire state ineligible to receive 911  
9955     funds.  So I think you have got to consider that, too, on  
9956     both sides of the aisle.

9957             If anybody else wants the rest of my time, I would be  
9958     happy --

9959             \*Mr. Cardenas.  Would the gentleman yield?   This is  
9960     Cardenas.

9961             \*Mr. Doyle.  Yes, I will yield to Tony.

9962           \*Mr. Cardenas. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman, and I  
9963 appreciate this opportunity for us to discuss what,  
9964 unfortunately, has become just talking points on behalf of my  
9965 Republican colleagues. Not every single one of you, because  
9966 not every single one of you has spoken, but nine-tenths of  
9967 what has been said on this amendment, which Mr. Doyle,  
9968 Congressman Doyle, just pointed out, would penalize every  
9969 single community in an entire state if you had one smidgen of  
9970 an adjustment of a budget for a law enforcement department in  
9971 that state.

9972           Because I have yet to hear what any one of my colleagues  
9973 -- my Republican colleagues, have spoken very adamantly about  
9974 this today -- what exactly is defund the police?

9975           I know a lot of my Republican colleagues, for the last  
9976 25 years that I have sat with, and enjoyed serving with in  
9977 the state legislature in California, and on the city council,  
9978 and now in Congress that, you know, you like to talk about  
9979 reducing waste, fraud, and abuse. So if there is a  
9980 department that needs a little bit of belt-tightening, but it  
9981 happens to be a police department, or it happens to have to  
9982 do with public safety, so correcting \$1 or \$10 or \$1,000 of  
9983 that particular department's budget, is that "defunding the  
9984 police"?

9985           Because let me tell you, this rhetoric that I have been  
9986 hearing about Democrats writ large wanting to defund the

9987 police is just a bunch of hogwash. Because let me tell you,  
9988 I have been in office for 25 years, and I learned early on in  
9989 my career as a public servant that funding police and funding  
9990 public safety go hand in hand. And if you have a really good  
9991 police department, they really enjoy it when policymakers  
9992 fund other departments that help complement what they want to  
9993 do, and what they are trained to do.

9994 I have had police officer and police officer after a  
9995 police officer tell me, when I was on the LA city council,  
9996 when I was in the state legislature, and to this day that I  
9997 have been a congressman, "We need more partners to help keep  
9998 crime down in our communities. We can't do it on our own."  
9999 Police officers are not the best experts to deal with  
10000 individuals who have mental health issues when they are  
10001 called in a 911 call. You better believe it, if there is a  
10002 gun being brandished, you better believe that a police  
10003 officer is probably the best person to show up to that scene  
10004 of a crime. But yet again, to discharge that weapon isn't  
10005 the only answer, either.

10006 So I just wanted to clarify for the record I am a  
10007 Democrat. I have been a lifelong Democrat. Generations of  
10008 Democrats in my family. And let me tell you, I have never  
10009 been for "defunding the police," as described mostly by my  
10010 Republican colleagues. And yes, there might be some  
10011 Democrats even in Congress who use the term "defund the

10012 police,' but you can probably count them on one hand.

10013       So with that, I yield back to you, Mr. Doyle. Thank you  
10014 for yielding me some of your time.

10015       \*Mr. McNerney. Mr. Doyle, will you -- me for a minute,  
10016 Mr. McNerney?

10017       \*Mr. Doyle. I think, the way I read this bill --

10018       \*The Chairman. He has only got 30 seconds. Who is  
10019 speaking, Doyle?

10020       \*Mr. Doyle. All you have to do is be considering  
10021 defunding the police, and you put your entire state in  
10022 jeopardy of not receiving NG911 funds. This is a very bad  
10023 amendment, and we should just dispatch with it quickly.

10024       I yield back.

10025       \*The Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Doyle. Now I go to Mr.  
10026 Dunn.

10027       \*Voice. Carter is more senior.

10028       \*The Chairman. Are you more senior?

10029       \*Voice. Yes, Carter.

10030       \*Mr. Carter. I am.

10031       \*The Chairman. Mr. Carter for five minutes.

10032       \*Mr. Carter. I move to strike the last word, Mr.  
10033 Chairman.

10034       \*The Chairman. The gentleman is recognized.

10035       \*Mr. Carter. You know, Mr. Chairman, I have been a  
10036 member of this august body for six-and-a-half years, and I

10037 have seen a lot of spin up here. But I don't think I have  
10038 ever seen anything that even comes close to comparing to the  
10039 spin that is going on now with this defund the police  
10040 movement.

10041 Think back to a year ago. What was happening in  
10042 Minneapolis? What was happening in Portland? Riots in our  
10043 major cities, out of control. Why? Because the Democrats  
10044 were hollering, "Defund the police." You earned it, and you  
10045 have to own it, because you are the ones who said it. You  
10046 created it. Now look at what we have got. Look at what we  
10047 have got in our major cities.

10048 My home state of Georgia, in the Capital City of the  
10049 South, in Atlanta. Homicides are up 60 percent of what they  
10050 were a year ago. One of the most affluent neighborhoods in  
10051 Atlanta, Buckhead, wanting to de-annex from the city so that  
10052 they can form their own city, so they can have their own  
10053 police force.

10054 This is not a talking point when you are talking about  
10055 people's lives, when you are discussing the impact on  
10056 people's lives, when their businesses -- it is not a talking  
10057 point.

10058 Someone mentioned January 6th, and you are right.  
10059 January 6th was wrong. Those people should be arrested and  
10060 prosecuted to the full extent of the law. It was wrong. But  
10061 let us not forget where this originated from. Let us not

10062 forget that. You can spin all you want, but you know you  
10063 created this with your defund the police rhetoric. That is  
10064 where it started.

10065 Now, we could have worked on this together. Perhaps  
10066 this amendment would not have even been necessary, had not  
10067 you and the Democrats in the dark came up with this, and  
10068 didn't let us know what was going on until the last minute.  
10069 Perhaps we could have worked together. But it didn't. That  
10070 didn't happen. Now we are faced with this situation, where  
10071 we have got to address it, and that is why this amendment is  
10072 important.

10073 That is why this amendment is important, because people  
10074 in America are concerned now. Six out of ten people say that  
10075 violent crime in our major cities is one of their biggest  
10076 concerns.

10077 This is a good amendment, Mr. Chairman. This will help,  
10078 and we should pass it.

10079 I will be glad to yield to anyone who needs some time.

10080 \*The Chairman. Well, we have Dunn and Palmer. Do they  
10081 want their own time?

10082 \*Mr. Dunn. I would like his time. Neal Dunn.

10083 \*Mr. Carter. I will yield to Dr. Dunn.

10084 \*Mr. Dunn. Thank you so much. I just want to --

10085 \*The Chairman. The gentleman --

10086 \*Mr. Dunn. I want to say -- thank you, Mr. Chairman.

10087 You know, this -- I rise to speak in favor of this amendment.  
10088 I think it is sagacious. I think it has symmetry, and -- but  
10089 I want you to know I support the underlying bill, as well.

10090 So, Madam Chair Eshoo, please put me on the long list of  
10091 people who support this bill. But I also support the  
10092 amendment. And let me be clear. In my home state we love  
10093 our law enforcement. You know, my home state, we would never  
10094 talk about defunding them. We spend our treasure supporting  
10095 them all the time. We are not that pleased to spend our  
10096 treasure supporting, you know, other cities that won't spend  
10097 their money supporting their police. You know, and my  
10098 district would love the -- they would embrace the symbolism  
10099 of this amendment. It would encourage communities that have  
10100 defunded their police to reconsider.

10101 And by the way, to me, this is nothing about Democrat  
10102 versus Republican. My district has more Democrats than  
10103 Republicans registered by a wide margin, and always has, you  
10104 know, since the Civil War. They have always had more  
10105 Democrats here. But if you come in my district, and you talk  
10106 about defunding the police, you are going to be widely and  
10107 completely reviled. This is not a Democrat/Republican thing  
10108 in my district. I promise you that. I got the last general  
10109 election I won with over 98 percent of the vote in a Democrat  
10110 district. This isn't Democrats, this is just people who hate  
10111 the police.



10112           And I think you could pass the bill, and you can pass  
10113   the amendment, and it will be a better bill. It is just --  
10114   and, by the way, it would really send the message. And in my  
10115   home district, I promise you, you know, that would be the  
10116   only message that it would embrace.

10117           \*Mr. Carter. Mr. Chairman, I yield.

10118           \*The Chairman. Mr. Carter, you have -- oh, you don't  
10119   have any time left. All right. Is there a Democrat?

10120           \*Voice. Sarbanes.

10121           \*The Chairman. Mr. Sarbanes is recognized for five  
10122   minutes.

10123           \*Mr. Sarbanes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman -- seconds. I  
10124   just wanted to register my opposition to the amendment.  
10125   Sadly, I think it is a cynical and divisive amendment, as you  
10126   can see.

10127           I am very excited about the underlying legislation. I  
10128   think about the efforts we are making in Baltimore, in part  
10129   aided by the Federal consent decree that was entered into  
10130   about five years ago to promote more cooperation and work  
10131   together between the police department and the community to  
10132   increase public safety. I can't think of a tool that will  
10133   enhance that effort more than upgrading this Next Generation  
10134   911 system. And I want to thank those who have helped pull  
10135   it together.

10136           I have heard from the police commissioner in Baltimore,

10137 the police commissioner in Baltimore County, in Annapolis,  
10138 Maryland, Anne Arundel County, all supporting this effort,  
10139 because they know that it is a great tool for them, but it is  
10140 a great tool for the community. So I am very excited about  
10141 it.

10142 It is unfortunate that this amendment has kind of  
10143 derailed the positivity that I think should be sort of  
10144 overarching in this conversation. But hopefully, it will get  
10145 the underlying legislation passed. Hopefully, we have the  
10146 votes to achieve that, and deliver this very, very important  
10147 resource for our constituents.

10148 With that, I yield back.

10149 \*Mr. McNerney. John, will you yield to me, McNerney?

10150 \*Mr. Sarbanes. Yes, absolutely, I will yield to you,  
10151 Jerry.

10152 \*Mr. McNerney. Thank you, John. You know, this should  
10153 be about 911 service. It is a good program, and it needs to  
10154 be upgraded for the 21st century. It is falling behind.

10155 I mentioned in some remarks about what was needed, but  
10156 the law and order types have turned this into political  
10157 theater. If you are so law and order inclined, then how  
10158 about funding the Capitol Police? A majority of the  
10159 Republicans voted against that. How about voting to  
10160 investigate what happened on January 6th? Mr. Carter said  
10161 that they should be prosecuted. Yes, but how can we

10162 prosecute them, if we don't know what happened, if we don't  
10163 know who they were?

10164 Finally, expel your members who embrace QAnon, and  
10165 embrace violence against other Members of Congress. That is  
10166 what it takes to stand up.

10167 I yield back to you, John.

10168 \*Voice. Mr. Chairman?

10169 \*The Chairman. Mr. Sarbanes --

10170 \*Ms. Kelly. John, this is Robin.

10171 \*The Chairman. -- you have the time.

10172 \*Mr. Sarbanes. Yes, I yield. Who wants the time?

10173 \*Ms. Kelly. I -- Robin Kelly.

10174 \*Mr. Sarbanes. Yes, I yield to you, Robin.

10175 \*Ms. Kelly. Thank you. The words "defund the police"  
10176 have never come out of my mouth, so I resent the whole brush  
10177 being put on all of us. I come from a family of law  
10178 enforcement. My uncles were NYPD cops, and my cousin. I  
10179 have a cousin that is an NYPD cop now, Iraqi war veteran, a  
10180 Marine. And then my two nephews are Chicago police officers,  
10181 and my stepdaughter works for the FBI. So I come from many  
10182 years of law enforcement, and I would never say defund the  
10183 police.

10184 But my cousin in New York did call me after an incident  
10185 in Chicago, one as Congressman Rush has tried to explain that  
10186 we have had our share of, and said the worst thing for a good

10187 cop is a bad cop.

10188           So we can't act like, you know, police officers are all  
10189 innocent, but I know the majority of them are trying to do  
10190 the right thing, because I have seen them every day since I  
10191 was a little kid. My grandparents' grocery store was like  
10192 the Dunkin Donuts in New York. All the cops came there. So  
10193 please don't put one broad brush on us.

10194           And if you are talking about taking money away, you  
10195 know, from states or municipalities that do these things, you  
10196 know, I would like to see if you wanted -- if you think that  
10197 is a good idea, I think it is a good idea to take money away  
10198 in grants from states that try to take away people's voting  
10199 rights, and try to take away women's rights to choose.

10200           And I think the other thing that would help cops, if we  
10201 could pass some of the -- if we care so much about them, some  
10202 of the gun violence prevention laws since, you know, when  
10203 they make traffic stops, or have to go to someone's house  
10204 because of domestic violence, that is where they are getting  
10205 killed at. So I think we need to think about that, too.

10206           And yes, I agree with my colleague, Jerry McNerney from  
10207 California. Let's do something about January 6th.

10208           Thank you, John.

10209           \*The Chairman. John?

10210           \*Mr. Sarbanes. Yes. I yield back.

10211           \*The Chairman. Mr. Sarbanes yields back. All right, I

10212 have Mr. Dunn.

10213 You don't want your own time, do you?

10214 All right. So then we go to Mr. Duncan.

10215 You have your hand up.

10216 [Pause.]

10217 \*The Chairman. Mr. Duncan, do you still want to speak?

10218 \*Mr. Duncan. Yes, sir.

10219 \*The Chairman. You do? You are recognized for five  
10220 minutes?

10221 \*Mr. Duncan. Thank you. You know, sitting here -- the  
10222 debate, and thinking about --

10223 [Audio malfunction.]

10224 \*Mr. Duncan. -- the underlying bill to build a Next  
10225 Generation 911 system is truly bipartisan.

10226 But I also think that what we saw last summer, through  
10227 the fall, were not Republican-led cities or municipalities or  
10228 counties hollering to defund the police. They were Democrat-  
10229 controlled cities that were doing that.

10230 No one is singling out a single member of this  
10231 committee, saying that they personally wanted to defund the  
10232 police. But it was the Democrats. I mean, you cannot deny  
10233 that. Democrat cities across this great land, many of which  
10234 were mentioned by my colleagues.

10235 You know, I am curious, when Robin mentioned just now  
10236 gun violence -- she is from Illinois, I believe. Illinois,

10237 home state to Chicago. Tremendous gun violence happens in  
10238 Chicago, and they have got the strictest gun laws in the  
10239 land. But enough of that.

10240         Think about this with me. Your local community received  
10241 grants for our Next Generation 911 system. And you were  
10242 hired on as a 911 operator, and you are sitting there in your  
10243 cubicle with your headset, and a call comes in. And that  
10244 call is an emergency that requires a police officer. But  
10245 unfortunately, due to the calls for defund the police within  
10246 your community, your local city council cut the training  
10247 budget, equipment budget, and manpower budget for your local  
10248 area. And as that 911 operator with that victim, or that  
10249 potential victim on the line, you can't get anybody on the  
10250 phone to respond to that because no one is available. The  
10251 department is short handed. Why? Because your community,  
10252 even though it got NG911 money from the Federal Government to  
10253 expand the system -- hey, you may even be looking at the  
10254 actual text messages and photos of the situation in real time  
10255 on that 911 call, but there isn't a police officer to send,  
10256 because your municipality had defunded the police. That is  
10257 what this underlying amendment from Mr. Johnson is about, to  
10258 deny these NG911 funds to communities that have defunded the  
10259 police.

10260         All we want is our 911 operators to have the Next  
10261 Generation technology. You won't find a single person on

10262 this committee that disagrees with that. But we want to make  
10263 sure that those 911 operators actually have first responders  
10264 available to take that call. That is what this amendment is  
10265 about. I support it, urge my colleagues to, as well.

10266 And with that, Mr. Chairman, I yield back.

10267 \*The Chairman. Thank you. Do we have any Democrat?

10268 Mrs. Trahan is next, recognized for five minutes.

10269 \*Mrs. Trahan. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. You know, I  
10270 have only been on this committee for nine months, and I can't  
10271 tell you how disappointing it is to hear yet another common-  
10272 sense policy be politicized by our Republican colleagues,  
10273 with no regard for what that partisan rhetoric does to our  
10274 country and to our communities.

10275 You know, the reason we have a morale problem in our  
10276 police departments is because politicians, like many of my  
10277 colleagues across the aisle, have decided to politicize law  
10278 enforcement, and turn it into an election issue, rather than  
10279 a public security issue. And it is dangerous. Many of the  
10280 same people who go on TV talking about their support for law  
10281 enforcement in opposition to defunding the police are the  
10282 same ones who sat silently as Capitol Police were attacked,  
10283 beaten, and overrun on January 6th. Some of them are even  
10284 calling for charges to be dropped against the assailants. I  
10285 mean, that is shameful.

10286 Not a single person on this side of the committee has

10287 voted to defund the police. We voted to do the opposite. We  
10288 voted to get police departments funds in the American Rescue  
10289 Plan, and we voted for COPS grant funding, both of which are  
10290 more than folks on the other side can say.

10291 Now, rather than join and deliver safety, Next  
10292 Generation technology for the American people, this amendment  
10293 would continue down the Republican approach to law  
10294 enforcement, penalizing officers and hurting victims. Now,  
10295 if that is your goal, then, by all means, support the  
10296 adoption of this amendment. If not, I hope you will join me  
10297 in opposing it.

10298 Thank you, I yield back.

10299 \*Ms. Barragan. Lori, would you yield to me, Barragan?

10300 \*Mrs. Trahan. I am sorry, I yield to Congresswoman  
10301 Craig.

10302 \*Ms. Craig. Thank you so much, Mrs. Trahan. I just  
10303 wanted to come back for one moment.

10304 And I don't represent the City of Minneapolis. I  
10305 represent a southeastern Minnesota congressional district  
10306 that starts about 20 minutes from the City of Minneapolis.  
10307 And, you know, I just want to go back to the point of -- a  
10308 couple of points that have been made by my colleagues.

10309 The first is, you know, what happened in Minneapolis  
10310 last summer, many of us Democrats in the State of Minnesota  
10311 spoke out against the violence and the looting. But what



10312 happened in Minnesota happened because Derek Chauvin put his  
10313 knee on George Floyd's throat, and murdered him, and we all  
10314 watched it. So please don't come here and tell me that what  
10315 happened in Minnesota happened because of the Defund the  
10316 Police movement.

10317       There is no movement. It is a faction. You all get so  
10318 upset when we talk about QAnon, we talk and compare you to  
10319 your colleagues who support and stand next to QAnon  
10320 supporters, and yet you do exactly what you are doing today.

10321       I want to read you a quote and, Mr. Chairman, this was  
10322 entered into the record, but I am quoted in this Wall Street  
10323 Journal article that Mrs. McMorris Rodgers has been  
10324 referencing here today. And by the way, the City of Savage  
10325 is in my congressional district. The reporter from The Wall  
10326 Street Journal was here, getting reaction to something  
10327 happening in Minneapolis from my district. So Savage is a  
10328 dateline. Savage has nothing to do with any of what you have  
10329 talked about here today. But my quote in this Wall Street  
10330 article -- Wall Street Journal article says, "My friend and  
10331 colleague, Tom Emmer, knows that it is complete bullshit that  
10332 I have ever supported the Defund the Police movement. And  
10333 yet he leads the National Republican Campaign Committee. And  
10334 not only will they try to stick that to me, but they will try  
10335 to stick that to every other swing district Democrat across  
10336 this country.''

10337           My colleagues, this amendment is nothing but a part of  
10338           that effort. We are here today, a Democratic majority in  
10339           Congress, the majority on Energy and Commerce, to pass a bill  
10340           that will fund 911 in law enforcement, \$10 billion. Any of  
10341           my Republican colleagues here tonight who vote against this  
10342           ANS are voting against funding law enforcement in our  
10343           country.

10344           It is a sad day, quite frankly, when we think of these  
10345           serious problems that my Republican colleagues see as a  
10346           political opportunity to be exploited for votes, rather than  
10347           sitting down and have a difficult conversation, and doing the  
10348           hard work of figuring out how we support law enforcement, and  
10349           how we support justice in policing across our country.

10350           I yield back.

10351           \*The Chairman. The time -- well, the time has expired.  
10352           Thank you, Mrs. Trahan. Mr. Palmer is next.

10353           \*Mr. Palmer. I move to strike the last word.

10354           \*The Chairman. The gentleman is recognized for five  
10355           minutes.

10356           \*Mr. Palmer. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are 25  
10357           cities that have either proposed or have already cut funding  
10358           for their police departments. Yet in 20 of those cities,  
10359           mayors and other city officials have provided themselves with  
10360           personal protection details, including in the City of  
10361           Chicago, where the city cut 400 police officer positions.

10362 This has had a devastating impact on police morale throughout  
10363 the country, including those who answer the 911 calls.

10364 Now, I realize that not every Democrat is for defunding  
10365 the police, but every politician who has been speaking out  
10366 for defunding the police are Democrats. If this were not  
10367 political, it would be a separate bill that we would be  
10368 handling in regular order, and not stuck in this massive  
10369 socialist spending bill our Democrat colleagues are trying to  
10370 hastily ram through. The fact that it is in this bill tells  
10371 Americans all they need to know about the politics of the  
10372 Democrats, especially those running so many of America's  
10373 major cities.

10374 Given the public's very intense opposition to defunding  
10375 the police, I can understand why some of my Democratic  
10376 colleagues are now so passionate about funding the police.  
10377 And frankly, I am very glad they are. Republicans have been  
10378 there all along.

10379 I have been sitting here, focused on this bill, and  
10380 thinking about some other people -- and I know this is going  
10381 to sound political, but I am as sincere as I can be -- I am  
10382 thinking about the hundreds of American citizens and the  
10383 thousands of Afghan allies who were left behind by the Biden  
10384 Administration who do not have a 911 number that they can  
10385 call. They don't even have an embassy to call, or a State  
10386 Department they can help -- they can call for help. I hope

10387 at some point -- maybe not in this markup, because it  
10388 wouldn't be germane -- but at some point we can come together  
10389 and come up with some plan to put some pressure on our State  
10390 Department to help those people get out. They are, after  
10391 all, American citizens and American allies.

10392 With that I will yield to the gentleman from  
10393 Pennsylvania, Mr. Joyce.

10394 \*Mr. Joyce. I thank the gentleman from Alabama for  
10395 yielding.

10396 I speak this evening in favor of the Johnson amendment.  
10397 Mr. Chairman, our nation's police officers are being defunded  
10398 at an alarming rate. As crime in our nation's cities  
10399 continue to rise, police departments across the country are  
10400 facing budget cuts as our communities become less and less  
10401 safe.

10402 We are all deeply troubled by the increase in violence  
10403 that we have seen on our streets. In Philadelphia, homicides  
10404 have increased by over 35 percent so far this year. I would  
10405 ask my colleagues why would entities that vote to defund the  
10406 police be rewarded with funding to upgrade their 911  
10407 infrastructure?

10408 Crime is increasing, and citizens are not safe. If  
10409 states were serious about stopping crime, they would be  
10410 providing more funding to the police, and more training.

10411 Let me be clear. NG911 is important, but it is an

10412 oxymoron to supply this to cities who defund the police.  
10413 Now, now more than ever, we must stand with our law  
10414 enforcement officers. We must stand with the heroes that  
10415 keep us safe each and every day. Society will not survive  
10416 without the rule of law. We must ensure that we have the  
10417 tools, and that we have the training to protect from harm  
10418 that will continue to be in our communities if we consider  
10419 additional defunding of the police.

10420 I do support the Johnson amendment, and encourage  
10421 support of the men and women in blue who work in our  
10422 communities day and night to keep us safe.

10423 Thank you, and I yield back to my friend from Alabama.

10424 \*Mr. Palmer. I thank --

10425 \*The Chairman. Mr. Palmer?

10426 \*Mr. Palmer. I thank the gentleman. I now yield the  
10427 remainder of my time to the gentleman from Indiana, Mr.  
10428 Pence.

10429 \*Mr. Pence. I thank the gentleman.

10430 [Audio malfunction.]

10431 \*Mr. Mullin. Did we lose audio?

10432 [Pause.]

10433 \*Mr. Palmer. I thank the chairman, and I yield back.

10434 \*The Chairman. Is his --

10435 \*Mr. Palmer. Mr. Chairman, I would like to just -- a  
10436 point of personal privilege. The 911 system was first

10437 introduced in Haleyville, Alabama, a city in which  
10438 Congressman Robert Aderholt and I were born.

10439 I yield back.

10440 \*The Chairman. Thank you. Ms. Blunt Rochester is  
10441 asking for time.

10442 You are recognized for five minutes.

10443 \*Ms. Blunt Rochester. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move  
10444 to strike the last word.

10445 \*The Chairman. The gentlewoman is recognized.

10446 \*Ms. Blunt Rochester. I will, first of all, say that I  
10447 will not be supporting the Johnson amendment, and encourage  
10448 my colleagues not to.

10449 I did want to have a point of clarification. Mr. Doyle  
10450 asked a question, and I don't think we got confirmation of  
10451 that. If I could ask a question of counsel, is it correct  
10452 that, if a municipality votes for this, that the entire state  
10453 is impacted by this? Could I get clarification from counsel  
10454 on that?

10455 \*Counselor. Congresswoman, I read, from this amendment,  
10456 that if there is an eligible entity applying for grant funds  
10457 within which there has been any vote or any action,  
10458 successful or unsuccessful, to defund or eliminate law  
10459 enforcement, the eligible entity could not reasonably certify  
10460 to the assistant secretary under subsection B for grant  
10461 funding.

10462           \*Ms. Blunt Rochester. So Mr. Doyle is correct?

10463           \*Counselor. That is correct.

10464           \*Ms. Blunt Rochester. Okay, thank you.

10465           And secondly, I would like to yield the balance of my  
10466 time to the gentlewoman from Illinois, Mr. Robin Kelly.

10467           \*Ms. Kelly. Thank you, Congressman Blunt Rochester. I  
10468 just want to say -- Chicago is constantly raised. I just  
10469 wanted to make it clear we do have our share of gun violence.  
10470 Most of Chicago's crime guns come from Indiana. It has been  
10471 proven over and over. ATF and the police say it would help  
10472 tremendously to have a national trafficking bill. But again,  
10473 we can't seem to get that done.

10474           I yield back.

10475           \*Ms. Blunt Rochester. Mr. Chairman, I yield.

10476           \*Ms. Barragan. Ms. Blunt Rochester, would you yield to  
10477 me, Barragan?

10478           \*Ms. Blunt Rochester. Yes, I will.

10479           \*Ms. Barragan. Thank you --

10480           \*The Chairman. Who is Ms. -- is that Nanette?

10481           \*Ms. Barragan. Yes, Barragan.

10482           \*The Chairman. Or Ms. Barragan? Okay.

10483           \*Ms. Barragan. Yes --

10484           \*The Chairman. You are recognized.

10485           \*Ms. Barragan. Thank you. I just want to come back to,  
10486 you know, the comment that was made about there is all this

10487 spin going on from my Republican colleague. But the spin  
10488 here is happening on their side because, frankly, when it  
10489 came down to them voting, and whether they were going to  
10490 decide to fund and help police departments get money, they  
10491 decided, every single one of them, to vote against it.

10492 And so our colleagues have mentioned, when they had a  
10493 chance to spend the \$350 billion in the American Rescue Plan,  
10494 that would go to support local cities that hire police  
10495 officers, that pay for police officers, that pay for first  
10496 responders. They all said no. Every single one of them said  
10497 no. So they want to start pointing at rhetoric. Let's talk  
10498 about votes, and let's talk about their votes, whether it is  
10499 that, whether it is the January 6th commission, whether it is  
10500 providing the money for the Capitol Police.

10501 So spin, yes. And it is happening on the Republican  
10502 side today by just -- I mean, look at this whole debate. And  
10503 that is why there has been a lot of members speaking up,  
10504 because the hypocrisy is here. And it is -- you want to say,  
10505 oh, only Democrats have said this, so that is a Democratic  
10506 thing. Well, we could say the same thing about Republicans,  
10507 you know, where you have -- only Republicans have been  
10508 calling for violence, so does that mean Republicans are for  
10509 violence? You know, Republicans are not willing to speak  
10510 out when there is abuse of power. So does that mean all  
10511 Republicans are for abuse of power?



10512           I mean, this logic of, well, let's not fund those who  
10513 did anything, whether it has been successful or not, on  
10514 Defund the Police, would then say that, under the American  
10515 Rescue Plan, that every single Republican who voted against  
10516 it, then none of their congressional districts should have  
10517 gotten funding, either.

10518           I mean, this is just ridiculous. I really hope we can  
10519 put an end to this and move on.

10520           And with that I yield back.

10521           \*Ms. Blunt Rochester. I yield back, Mr. Chairman.

10522           \*Mr. Rush. Will the gentlelady yield?

10523           \*Ms. Blunt Rochester. Yes, I will yield.

10524           \*Mr. Rush. Yield to me?

10525           \*Ms. Blunt Rochester. Yes, sir.

10526           \*Mr. Rush. Mr. Chairman, I just want to say to my  
10527 colleagues, someone earlier said that there is -- Chicago had  
10528 reduced its police force by 400. I don't know where they got  
10529 that from. Chicago is actively trying to recruit more police  
10530 officers, and trying to diversify its force. They are  
10531 actually recruiting, as we speak, more police officers in all  
10532 the different communities in the City of Chicago. So we are  
10533 not trying to reduce the overall force in the City of  
10534 Chicago.

10535           We are -- most of our police officers are police  
10536 officers who are welcome in this city, in every

10537 neighborhood --

10538 [Audio malfunction.]

10539 \*Mr. Rush. -- of them.

10540 Thank you, I yield back.

10541 \*Ms. Blunt Rochester. Thank you. And I yield back, Mr.

10542 Chairman.

10543 \*The Chairman. All right. Mrs. Lesko would like five  
10544 minutes. The gentlewoman from Arizona is recognized.

10545 \*Mrs. Lesko. Thank you, Mr. Chair. I would like to  
10546 strike the last word.

10547 I am just going to plainly read the amendment. It just  
10548 says the eligible entity has not made any efforts or taken  
10549 action, including voting on ordinances, budgets, legislation,  
10550 or resolutions to defund or eliminate law enforcement.

10551 So I guess my point is, if you are -- if this entity,  
10552 whether it is a city or a state, decides to take actions to  
10553 defund or eliminate the police department, why would they  
10554 need this 911 funding, if they are going to eliminate law  
10555 enforcement?

10556 I know this has become a very emotional debate for a lot  
10557 of people. But to my Democratic colleagues, you know, just  
10558 as recently as August, one of your colleagues, Representative  
10559 Cori Bush, said -- and I quote -- on public TV, "Defunding  
10560 the police has to happen."

10561 And so, I mean, that is why this subject has come up,

10562 that is why we talk about it, because I, for one, am totally  
10563 for law enforcement. And I want to support law enforcement.

10564 Now, do we have to penalize bad actors in law  
10565 enforcement? Of course we do. But the vast majority of our  
10566 law enforcement are good people protecting us. And that is  
10567 why I don't think it is fair to give a city who decides --  
10568 their elected officials decide to defund the police, or  
10569 reduce police funding, or eliminate police, why would we  
10570 reward them for that? And so that is why I support this  
10571 amendment.

10572 And I want to give my time to Mr. Larry Bucshon.

10573 \*Mr. Bucshon. Well, thank you, Debbie. I just want to  
10574 follow up on a couple of things.

10575 First of all, I mean, I think we all know, right, that  
10576 Democrats put pro-law enforcement funding into partisan bills  
10577 that we can't support. But -- and I think the public knows  
10578 that. I mean, and that is just disingenuous to say that  
10579 Republicans vote against law enforcement, when you put them  
10580 in big, partisan bills that we can't support. Yes, of course  
10581 we don't vote for that.

10582 And since Indiana was mentioned as the cause of violence  
10583 in a city that I -- is a great American city -- I went to  
10584 medical school in Chicago, I love the city, I am a Bears fan,  
10585 I -- you know, a Bulls fan, everything you can imagine --  
10586 that is just ridiculous, because it is not law abiding

10587 citizens that are coming down to Indiana and getting weapons.  
10588 It is criminals. And the reason is because they can't find a  
10589 gun in the city that is legal, and they can't find guns,  
10590 other than illegal ones, in the city. So they just think it  
10591 is easier to come down to Indiana, and then take those over  
10592 to Chicago, and use them illegally.

10593         So I am getting tired of the city up there, and the  
10594 politicians who represent there blaming the State of Indiana  
10595 for the violence problem. As I said, I went to med school  
10596 from 1984 to 1988, and the violence was actually worse then.  
10597 We just didn't know about it, because we didn't have 24-hour  
10598 news and social media at that time. But I can tell you  
10599 firsthand, doing rotations at Cook County Hospital as a  
10600 trauma -- on the trauma service, trust me, the violence was  
10601 just as bad, and it hasn't been solved. Now you want to  
10602 blame it on Indiana.

10603         So, you know, I think we need to -- Democrats need to  
10604 get off of this it is the guns issue, too. I mean, you want  
10605 to complain about us, about us -- what we say is the violence  
10606 issue: it is the people, and the criminals, and the lack of  
10607 support for law enforcement. Well, I mean, until you decide  
10608 that it is not the guns that is the problem, you are never  
10609 going to solve the problem.

10610         So look, I don't like this debate. I mean, I think all  
10611 of us on this committee support 911. I like the underlying

10612 bill. I mean, I want communities to have the best technology  
10613 available. But the disingenuousness of the conversation  
10614 here, again, saying that Republicans are voting on the House  
10615 floor against law enforcement, when you know you purposely  
10616 put bills into large, partisan bills you know we can't vote  
10617 for, I mean, the American people just don't believe it.

10618 And the other thing, let me just say this in finishing  
10619 -- I got 26 seconds -- most communities, regardless of where  
10620 they are, want more police, not less. It is the politicians  
10621 that want less. And it is the activists that the politicians  
10622 are listening to. The citizens want more law enforcement,  
10623 not less.

10624 I yield back to Mrs. Lesko.

10625 \*The Chairman. All right, Mrs. Lesko, your time has  
10626 expired.

10627 Do we have anybody else on this Johnson amendment?

10628 Mrs. Dingell is recognized for five minutes.

10629 \*Mrs. Dingell. I just don't want to end this  
10630 conversation, which, quite frankly, has been one of the most  
10631 difficult I have ever had to listen to, with the law  
10632 enforcement across this country thinking that they are not  
10633 appreciated.

10634 Every last one of us that is participating here tonight  
10635 was kept safe on January 6th. They hung -- they wanted to  
10636 hang the Vice President of the United States.

10637           I have spent my entire August going -- meeting with law  
10638 enforcement officers in every one of the communities in my  
10639 district, who feel unappreciated, demoralized, and bad-  
10640 mouthed by all politicians. They don't care which one we  
10641 are. There -- our chiefs are having a hard time recruiting  
10642 people. They are not getting enough benefits. We all care.  
10643 We don't -- we shouldn't be playing games with 911. We need  
10644 to be supporting.

10645           We have all talked about the examples. It is a false  
10646 choice. We have had to make a false choice. When you see  
10647 what happened in Wisconsin, when a young White man walked  
10648 down the street with an assault weapon and killed and shot  
10649 two people and wasn't stopped, that should bother all of us.

10650           But we also all want to thank the law enforcement. I  
10651 particularly want to thank the law enforcement officers that  
10652 keep all of us safe, that are working tonight while we are  
10653 doing this. And I am not going to let the last word be  
10654 anybody thinking any of my colleagues don't appreciate those  
10655 that keep us safe.

10656           It is time all of us say thank you to those of us that  
10657 do keep us safe, demand accountability where it needs to be,  
10658 not violate the rights of people that have freedom of speech,  
10659 but also defend those that need to be defended. And I think  
10660 this is one of the saddest debates I have seen in this  
10661 committee.

10662 I yield back.

10663 \*The Chairman. Mr. Crenshaw would -- has asked for five  
10664 minutes. The gentleman from Texas is recognized.

10665 \*Mr. Crenshaw. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to  
10666 strike the last word.

10667 \*The Chairman. The gentleman is recognized for five  
10668 minutes.

10669 \*Mr. Crenshaw. I am glad to see the passion on the  
10670 other side for this, and I am glad to see that when we just  
10671 repeat what the left says, it makes you guys really, really  
10672 mad. Why? Because it is insanity. The Defund the Police  
10673 slogan is insanity. I am loving watching you guys claim  
10674 that, you know, it is really not our position, it is just  
10675 some fringe movement. I am going to get to that in a second.

10676 But first let me just state the obvious that everybody  
10677 has been saying: this amendment is common sense. And just  
10678 like all of the other previous amendments, they expose the  
10679 hypocrisy and the contradictions that are present on the  
10680 other side of the aisle. I mean, that is the purpose of  
10681 this, to expose how insane this actually is, to expose the  
10682 reality that if a city is defunding the police, they probably  
10683 don't need more money for 911 centers, do they?

10684 And do I need to point out that it doesn't matter if you  
10685 call 911 if there is no police on the other end of that  
10686 because your liberal mayor has defunded that? Do I need to

10687 point that out to you people? So spare me the outrage on  
10688 the other side because we are exposing what your side says  
10689 all the time.

10690 And no, it is not a myth. Lots of cities have done  
10691 this, like we have already said. Twenty-five have either  
10692 done it or proposed to do it. You say, "Oh, not us, we  
10693 haven't done it.'" Your most famous Members of Congress  
10694 have, the ones controlling your party, the squad: Ilhan  
10695 Omar, Ocasio-Cortez, Cori Bush, they are all on the record  
10696 saying, "When we mean defund the police, we mean defund the  
10697 police.'" This is not a fringe movement, this is in your  
10698 conference, and we are just exposing it. And if that makes  
10699 you mad, too bad. Don't direct your anger at us, direct it  
10700 at your own people. They are the ones you should be mad at.

10701 And no, it is not the GOP that wants to defund the  
10702 police, and don't give me this crap that, oh, the police are  
10703 -- they feel demoralized by all politicians. Yes. I hang  
10704 out with police way more than anybody else here. Trust me, I  
10705 am part of that community. Believe me, we are not the ones  
10706 they are mad at. Not even close.

10707 And spare me this America Rescue Plan, we didn't vote  
10708 for that, and therefore we want to defund the police. Even  
10709 The Washington Post gave you guys three Pinocchios for that  
10710 one. And yet some of you have repeated that lie knowingly  
10711 during this debate. You have actually -- you know you are



10712 lying, and you still say it out loud. It is kind of hard to  
10713 believe.

10714 I mean, it is like saying, look, let's propose \$1  
10715 million, right, on a bunch of wasteful stuff, but 10 percent  
10716 of it will be for puppies, and somebody says, "Well, I don't  
10717 really want to vote for that, that is a lot of money for  
10718 random stuff," and then you say, "Well, you are against  
10719 puppies." Yes, you see how that works? Do you see how  
10720 ridiculous that sounds? Because it is ridiculous.

10721 We are not going to put up with this anymore. If you  
10722 guys don't like the slogans that are attached to your party,  
10723 then talk to your own people. Don't get mad at us when we  
10724 propose common-sense amendments that expose the nonsense  
10725 going on on the left, the radicalism that is going on in the  
10726 left with the Defund the Police movement.

10727 Crime is rising in major cities across America, not just  
10728 a little, but exponentially. People are, literally, dying  
10729 day after day because of Democrat policies, and only because  
10730 of Democrat policies. Because if it is not defunding the  
10731 police, it is bail reform, or whatever else is causing  
10732 dramatic increases in crime, a refusal to acknowledge that it  
10733 is happening, a refusal to enforce the law and go after  
10734 violent criminals because, you know, social justice and  
10735 stuff.

10736 Spare me the outrage at us, guys, please, and just vote

10737 for this amendment. Show that there is actually some common-  
10738 sense, moderate members of the Democrat Party. Just show us  
10739 that. Show that you are not controlled by the squad that  
10740 actually does want to defund the police. Your anger is  
10741 misplaced at us, that is for sure.

10742 Are there any Republican members who -- time.

10743 \*The Chairman. You know, I have been letting everybody  
10744 have a lot of leeway here, but -- and I don't know what the  
10745 -- you know, the rules are, but I really would prefer if  
10746 members didn't refer to other members, you know, as -- by  
10747 name, particularly, you know, particularly if they are not in  
10748 the room.

10749 \*Mr. Crenshaw. I didn't refer to anybody by name, Mr.  
10750 Chairman, not in this committee, but I have to --

10751 \*The Chairman. Let's try in the future --

10752 \*Mr. Crenshaw. -- other Members of Congress, but not in  
10753 this committee.

10754 \*The Chairman. -- not to mention other Members by name,  
10755 and particularly if they are not here and can't defend  
10756 themselves.

10757 All right, what is left here? Anybody else want to  
10758 talk, or are you tired?

10759 \*Voice. Mrs. Fletcher.

10760 \*The Chairman. Mrs. Fletcher is recognized for five  
10761 minutes.

10762           \*Mrs. Fletcher. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to  
10763 strike the last word.

10764           \*The Chairman. The gentlewoman is recognized.

10765           \*Mrs. Fletcher. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and I will try  
10766 to make it brief, because I think that everyone here has  
10767 heard a lot of things. I have made a lot of notes as people  
10768 have talked.

10769           But I think that the point that Mr. Crenshaw just made  
10770 is the one that I want to respond to, and hopefully this will  
10771 be the end of our debate, when Mr. Crenshaw said that this  
10772 amendment is common-sense. And as someone who practiced law  
10773 for more than a dozen years, I can tell you that this  
10774 amendment is not common-sense.

10775           This is not a smart amendment to a bill that is designed  
10776 to fund the police. It is overly broad and vague, and it --  
10777 we have already had Ms. Blunt Rochester ask counsel, who has  
10778 demonstrated that this cannot be followed. This will make  
10779 things harder, rather than easier. And, you know, it is so  
10780 vague that an entity perhaps entertaining a citizen request -  
10781 - or one member of counsel could come in and could say, well,  
10782 they have considered a motion to defund the police.

10783           Some cities, like ours, where Mr. Crenshaw and I both  
10784 live, requires the city to balance the budget. And we all  
10785 know that cities like ours, and cities across the country  
10786 have had reduced revenues during the coronavirus pandemic.

10787 And in fact, if we had not given the state and local funding  
10788 that we did provide in the American Rescue Plan, they may  
10789 very well have had to reduce budgets across the board. This  
10790 could be a 10 percent budget cut. It is so vague.

10791 And so the idea that this is just a well-meaning,  
10792 common-sense amendment that everyone should agree to is just  
10793 a proposition that I cannot accept, I don't think our  
10794 committee should accept. I don't think we should be bullied  
10795 into accepting it.

10796 There are many members who have spoken very eloquently  
10797 about the things that we can do and the things that we can't  
10798 do. And certainly, none of us speak for everyone across the  
10799 country. We represent various communities. That is the  
10800 beauty of the Congress, we all come together from across the  
10801 country with this geographic diversity that is built in to  
10802 what we do here to bring our perspectives.

10803 And certainly in our community, in Houston, we have not  
10804 defunded the police. We didn't do it last year. We didn't  
10805 do it this year. Our city council voted, in fact, to  
10806 increase funding for the police. But what we do see is that  
10807 there is legislation we can pass here. And certainly,  
10808 passing the American Rescue Act, getting the funds to state  
10809 and local governments so they could continue to pay the  
10810 police and first responders, so that they could make sure  
10811 that they didn't have to lay people off, those were critical

10812 pieces of funding the police. Whether people chose to vote  
10813 for that or not, that is a true statement.

10814       There are other things that law enforcement officers  
10815 have told us we can do, as well. And I know in our  
10816 community, our law enforcement leaders have told me that the  
10817 most dangerous situation that the officers enter time and  
10818 again are domestic violence situations. Those are the most  
10819 dangerous encounters for officers. What can we do in  
10820 Congress? We could reauthorize the Violence Against Women  
10821 Act. There are things that we can do.

10822       We can't do everything, but what we can do is write  
10823 thoughtful legislation that is not an overly vague, overly  
10824 broad lack of contextual amendment meant to be a gotcha  
10825 amendment, which is effectively what Mr. Crenshaw just told  
10826 us, that they filed this amendment not because they think it  
10827 is good policy, but because it can call out some hypocrisy on  
10828 the left. That is not serious governance. That is not what  
10829 we are sent here to do.

10830       We are sent here to represent our constituents, to make  
10831 good policy, to make thoughtful policy. And the bill that we  
10832 are talking about right now is exactly that. This is a bill  
10833 to fortify and strengthen our 911 emergency operations. That  
10834 is a bill that funds the police, that helps keep our  
10835 communities safer, and I encourage all of my colleagues to  
10836 vote in favor of the underlying bill and against this

10837 amendment, which would thwart the very, very good and  
10838 important work that we are doing in the underlying bill.

10839 And with that, I will yield back.

10840 \*The Chairman. All right. Anyone else -- hopefully not  
10841 -- want to speak on this?

10842 All right, we are going to go to -- well, first of all,  
10843 this is the Johnson amendment. And I will proceed.

10844 You want a vote on this? Okay.

10845 \*Mr. Johnson. Mr. Chairman, I request a recorded vote.

10846 \*The Chairman. Yes --

10847 \*Mr. Crenshaw. Mr. Chairman, do I -- can I get a chance  
10848 to respond, since I was named?

10849 \*The Chairman. What was that?

10850 \*Voice. No, he spoke already.

10851 \*Mr. Crenshaw. Mr. Chair --

10852 \*Mr. Hudson. I will move to strike the last word.

10853 \*The Chairman. Mr. Hudson --

10854 \*Mr. Crenshaw. -- respond briefly, because I was named  
10855 there.

10856 \*The Chairman. Oh, you want to speak? You haven't  
10857 spoken yet? No?

10858 All right, go ahead. You are recognized for five  
10859 minutes.

10860 \*Mr. Hudson. I would like to yield my time to Dan  
10861 Crenshaw.

10862           \*The Chairman. Oh, okay.

10863           \*Mr. Crenshaw. Well, thank you.

10864           \*The Chairman. Please --

10865           \*Mr. Crenshaw. And I will be brief, just because --

10866           \*The Chairman. Don't mention people by name, please.

10867   Go ahead.

10868           \*Mr. Crenshaw. Well, I won't, but I was mentioned, and  
10869   that's the only reason Mr. Hudson was kind enough to lend me  
10870   his time.

10871           And I am not sure what Mrs. Fletcher's point was about  
10872   common sense. But again, the common-sense aspect of this is  
10873   that -- defunding your police, you probably don't need more  
10874   money for 911 call centers. That continues to be obvious.

10875           We agree, Houston has not defunded the police. Houston  
10876   would be a recipient of this kind of funding, and that would  
10877   be a good thing.

10878           Regardless of what kind of issues, crime issues, are  
10879   prevalent, and what we should be taking seriously, that is  
10880   besides the point. This is common sense. This isn't  
10881   messaging. It is a very, very serious amendment, because  
10882   there is a very, very serious movement on the left to  
10883   actually defund the police. And again, people are dying  
10884   because of it. This is not disingenuous. The opposition to  
10885   it is disingenuous.

10886           And I yield back.

10887           \*Mr. Hudson. I yield back, Mr. Chairman.

10888           \*Mr. Cardenas. Mr. Chairman?

10889           \*The Chairman. Anyone else?

10890           \*Mr. Cardenas. This is Congressman Cardenas, I seek to  
10891 be recognized to strike the last word.

10892           \*The Chairman. Who is that?

10893           \*Voice. Cardenas.

10894           \*The Chairman. Mr. Cardenas wants to be recognized for  
10895 five minutes?

10896           Yes, you are recognized.

10897           \*Mr. Cardenas. Thank you very much. I would just like  
10898 to afford my colleague, Mrs. Fletcher, an opportunity to  
10899 clarify her points that somebody tried to rebut when Mr.  
10900 Crenshaw could have asked her directly, he had plenty of time  
10901 to do so. I just wanted to give my colleague an opportunity  
10902 to do that, and then I have a comment myself, if she would  
10903 like to.

10904           \*Mrs. Fletcher. Well, thank you very much, Mr.  
10905 Cardenas.

10906           And again, I think that maybe this the -- a good point  
10907 to end on, which is this amendment, as offered, is vague.  
10908 And it is against common sense to vote for an amendment that  
10909 is so overly broad, and so vague that it, literally, cannot  
10910 be followed by nearly any entity, that any eligible entity  
10911 has had any conversation, has had any effort, any vote of any



10912 kind, whether it passed or not, on an ordinance or a budget.  
10913 If an entity in this country had a 10 percent reduction in  
10914 its budget, that would fall under this amendment. Those are  
10915 not the kinds of things that make sense in this context.

10916 What makes sense is keeping our community safe by  
10917 investing in the infrastructure that allows people across the  
10918 country to be able to use the 911 system when there is an  
10919 emergency. That is common sense. That is what the  
10920 underlying bill does, and I appreciate my colleague, Mr.  
10921 Cardenas, for yielding me that time.

10922 Thank you very much, and I yield back.

10923 \*Mr. Cardenas. Thank you.

10924 Mr. Chairman Pallone, I just would like to ask the staff  
10925 a question, so we can all be clear on what this amendment  
10926 would do.

10927 It is my understanding that we got clarification from  
10928 the staff --

10929 \*The Chairman. You are talking about the counsel,  
10930 right?

10931 \*Mr. Cardenas. The counsel, yes.

10932 \*The Chairman. You are asking the question of counsel?

10933 \*Mr. Cardenas. Yes, of counsel.

10934 Isn't it the case that, if any jurisdiction within a  
10935 state was interpreted, as this amendment broadly states,  
10936 about some kind of defunding or reducing resources from a

10937 police department, that it could be interpreted that all of  
10938 those entities in that state would be precluded from being  
10939 able to take advantage of Ms. Eshoo's bill if it actually  
10940 passed?

10941 \*Counselor. Congressman, yes, I read from this  
10942 amendment that, if there is an eligible entity within which  
10943 there has been any vote or any effort or action, successful  
10944 or unsuccessful, to defund or eliminate law enforcement, the  
10945 eligible entity could not certify to the assistant secretary  
10946 under subsection B.

10947 \*Mrs. Rodgers. Would the gentleman yield?

10948 \*Mr. Griffith. Mr. Chairman? Mr. Chairman, a point of  
10949 parliamentary inquiry.

10950 \*Mrs. Rodgers. Yes, there we go, good.

10951 \*Mr. Griffith. A point of parliamentary inquiry, Mr.  
10952 Chairman.

10953 \*The Chairman. Well, wait a minute, look, this is Mr.  
10954 Cardenas's time.

10955 \*Mrs. Rodgers. Okay.

10956 \*Mr. Griffith. I know, but this is a point of  
10957 parliamentary inquiry.

10958 \*The Chairman. No, no, we are not --

10959 \*Mr. Cardenas. Is it in order --

10960 \*Mr. Griffith. It is about the counsel, Mr. Chairman.

10961 \*Mr. Cardenas. -- to recognize a parliamentary inquiry

10962 when a person has the floor?

10963 \*Mrs. Rodgers. No, no --

10964 \*The Chairman. All right, look, can we just start a  
10965 minute again?

10966 What Mr. Cardenas is asking is, if you know -- I don't  
10967 know, you know --

10968 \*Mr. Cardenas. I can ask the question again, Mr.  
10969 Chairman.

10970 \*The Chairman. I don't want to -- my town. Let's just  
10971 say Town X in Pennsylvania decided to, you know, cut the  
10972 police department by 10 percent. Now, would that mean that  
10973 Philadelphia then would be excluded from getting the 911  
10974 money? That is his question. You are going from one town  
10975 to the other. You follow me, Dan?

10976 \*Counselor. Mr. Chairman, the amendment states that the  
10977 eligible entity has not made any efforts or taken action,  
10978 including voting on ordinances, budgets, legislation, or  
10979 resolutions to defund or eliminate law enforcement.

10980 \*The Chairman. No, but that is not the question.

10981 \*Mr. Cardenas. But -- okay, let me ask the question --

10982 \*The Chairman. What he is asking is if --

10983 \*Mr. Cardenas. -- Chairman Pallone. Let me repeat --

10984 \*The Chairman. Let's say that Pittsburgh,  
10985 Pennsylvania --

10986 \*Mr. Cardenas. Let me repeat the question.

10987           \*The Chairman. I am just trying to get clarification.  
10988   What he is saying is if Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania decided to  
10989   -- and now Doyle is going to get mad at me -- if Pittsburgh,  
10990   Pennsylvania decided to cut their police budget by five  
10991   percent, would that mean that Philadelphia could no longer be  
10992   eligible for the money? He is --

10993           \*Mr. Griffith. A point of parliamentary inquiry, Mr.  
10994   Chairman.

10995           \*The Chairman. That is what he is asking.

10996           \*Counselor. Yes, Congressman. Since the eligible  
10997   entity that is making the certification to the assistant  
10998   secretary is the state, it would be the state making that  
10999   certification on behalf of the entire state.

11000           \*The Chairman. So you are saying that, if one town in  
11001   the state meets the criteria for defunding, then the whole  
11002   state is disqualified. That is what he is saying.

11003           \*Mr. Cardenas. All of the entity --

11004           \*Counselor. The amendment says that "has not made any  
11005   efforts, or taken action, including voting on ordinances,  
11006   budgets, legislation, or resolutions to defund'" --

11007           \*The Chairman. So that is his opinion. You don't have  
11008   to agree with it.

11009           \*Mrs. Rodgers. Well, a point of parliamentary inquiry.

11010           \*The Chairman. Wait a minute, is it a parliamentary  
11011   inquiry?

11012           \*Mr. Griffith. I have a parliamentary inquiry.

11013           \*Voice. You don't have to recognize him.

11014           \*The Chairman. Well, look, can we just get done with  
11015 this?

11016           \*Mrs. Rodgers. Well --

11017           \*The Chairman. Let Mr. Cardenas finish, and then we  
11018 will yield to someone else.

11019           \*Mr. Griffith. Mr. Chairman, the problem is my point of  
11020 parliamentary inquiry deals with the counsel.

11021           \*Voice. There is no right. There is no right to --

11022           \*Mr. Griffith. It is right now that I need to know --  
11023 and we had this issue a couple of years ago -- counsel was  
11024 not legal counsel. And I am just trying to clarify if this  
11025 counsel is legal counsel, or is not a lawyer by training.

11026           \*The Chairman. All right, then listen, Mr. Griffith.  
11027 This is a question of opinion. So that is his opinion. Can  
11028 we --

11029           \*Mr. Griffith. It is a judgment. But the -- as the  
11030 court always knows, the weight -- the evidence might be  
11031 admissible, but it is the weight.

11032           \*The Chairman. I can't go on here --

11033           \*Mr. Griffith. I want to know the weight of the  
11034 evidence he has given.

11035           \*The Chairman. Mr. Cardenas, you have --

11036           \*Mr. Cardenas. Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance

11037 of my time.

11038 \*The Chairman. I am going to go back to him for a  
11039 while.

11040 \*Mr. Ruiz. Will the gentleman yield?

11041 \*The Chairman. Mr. Cardenas, look, do you want to ask  
11042 anything else?

11043 \*Mr. Cardenas. No, I yield back the balance of my time.

11044 \*Mr. Ruiz. Does the gentleman yield?

11045 \*The Chairman. All right, you yield back.

11046 Now, if there is a Republican that wants to take some  
11047 time, we have some that haven't had any time yet. I don't  
11048 know who. Is there anybody on -- you haven't had any --  
11049 okay.

11050 So you are recognized for five minutes. Forget the  
11051 parliamentary aspect.

11052 \*Mr. Griffith. Well, that is the only thing I wanted to  
11053 talk about, Mr. Chairman, is that --

11054 \*The Chairman. Well, just ask the question.

11055 \*Mr. Griffith. -- I am trying to determine the weight  
11056 of the evidence of the counsel that -- we have been asking  
11057 this counsel for a learned opinion. I have no idea whether  
11058 the counsel who gave that learned opinion is a lawyer, or not  
11059 a lawyer.

11060 \*The Chairman. I can't --

11061 \*Mr. Griffith. We had a member who said they had

11062 practiced for 12 years.

11063 \*The Chairman. I am not going to question the counsel.

11064 \*Mr. Griffith. I am just -- well, I want to know what  
11065 their training is, that is all I am asking.

11066 \*The Chairman. No, I am not getting into the training  
11067 of the staff. No, we are not doing that. If you want to --  
11068 he has already expressed his opinion. If you don't like it,  
11069 that is fine. You don't have to respect his opinion.

11070 \*Mr. Griffith. I yield to -- my time to the ranking  
11071 member of the full committee.

11072 \*The Chairman. All right, she is recognized.

11073 \*Mrs. Rodgers. Thank you. I thank the gentleman. I  
11074 thank the gentleman for yielding.

11075 I would like to follow up with the counsel on the  
11076 question of defining the entity, the eligible entity -- and I  
11077 am looking at page 9 and page 10 -- because the amendment is  
11078 -- let's see here -- the amendment references eligible  
11079 entity. Eligible Entity means a covered state or a tribal  
11080 organization, and maybe an entity including a public  
11081 authority board or commission established by one or more  
11082 entities described in subparagraph.

11083 Does that not suggest that it would have to be both,  
11084 that this question as to a city making their own decisions --  
11085 a city, as distinct from a state?

11086 \*Counselor. I am sorry, Congresswoman, what was the

11087 question?

11088           \*Mrs. Rodgers. That a city is distinct from a state,  
11089 that it is -- that this idea that -- the question before you  
11090 has been that, if a city makes a unilateral decision, or any  
11091 -- takes any action to defund, or considers defunding the  
11092 police, that the state loses its funding. According to this  
11093 eligible entity definition, is not the city a separate  
11094 entity?

11095           \*Counselor. So, Congresswoman, to talk briefly about  
11096 the definition of eligible entity, as you note, it is a  
11097 covered state --

11098           \*The Chairman. You have got to take your mask off, sir.  
11099 I can't hear you.

11100           \*Counselor. Can you hear me a little better now,  
11101 Chairman?

11102           \*The Chairman. Yes.

11103           \*Counselor. So Congresswoman, to go to the definition  
11104 of a covered state, which I think is what you are referencing  
11105 here --

11106           \*Mrs. Rodgers. Covered entity, covered entity.

11107           \*Counselor. Well, eligible entity is --

11108           \*Mrs. Rodgers. Eligible entity, yes.

11109           \*Counselor. -- either a covered state --

11110           \*Mrs. Rodgers. Yes.

11111           \*Counselor. -- or a tribal organization, or a



11112 combination

11113 of those entities. So, for purposes of the definition of  
11114 what an eligible entity is, you are right. It is a state.

11115 I believe the point that is being raised with regard to  
11116 municipalities or -- cities, I think you said -- and states,  
11117 I believe the definition offered by Mr. Johnson here notes  
11118 that it is any action related to ordinances, including voting  
11119 on ordinances, which are a function of cities.

11120 \*Mrs. Rodgers. So why that --

11121 \*Voice. Eligible entity has not made any efforts, or  
11122 taken any action to defund law enforcement.

11123 [Pause.]

11124 \*Voice. Just because it says ordinances, it doesn't  
11125 automatically mean -- by a city would apply to a state.

11126 \*Mrs. Rodgers. Okay.

11127 \*Voice. An ordinance is something that is perhaps  
11128 unique to a municipality.

11129 \*Mrs. Rodgers. Okay, so we would like the counsel to  
11130 consider that the ordinance -- okay, so the eligible entity  
11131 has not made any efforts or taken action, and then it says,  
11132 "including voting on ordinances, budgets, legislation, or  
11133 resolutions.'" The -- but that is -- the ordinance is by the  
11134 eligible entity, right? So it is the state --

11135 \*Voice. The city.

11136 \*Mrs. Rodgers. By the city, or any --

11137           \*Voice. Entity created by the state, or --

11138           \*Mrs. Rodgers. Any entity created by the state.

11139           \*Voice. Not necessarily --

11140           \*Counselor. So if that is right, as you said,  
11141 Congresswoman, it would be voting on an ordinance, which is  
11142 which is generally done by cities. So merely voting on an  
11143 ordinance. So it actually is -- it -- regardless of whether  
11144 or not the ordinance passes or not, but voting on the  
11145 ordinance is what is described in Mr. Johnson's amendment.

11146           \*Mrs. Rodgers. Well, I guess our point is that that is  
11147 a descriptor of the action that is taken by the covered  
11148 entity, or the eligible entity, which could be either a city  
11149 or the state, as -- if you go back to page 9 and 10 of the  
11150 definition of eligible entity, because it means a state or a  
11151 tribal -- or organization, and then it says "or maybe an  
11152 entity including'" -- so thank you, I yield back.

11153           \*The Chairman. All right.

11154           \*Mr. Griffith. I yield.

11155           \*The Chairman. So we vote now?

11156           \*Mr. Ruiz. Mr. Chairman? Mr. Chairman?

11157           \*The Chairman. Do you really want to ask again, Raul?  
11158 Can we -- all right, go ahead, Mr. Ruiz.

11159           \*Mr. Ruiz. No, I will be very quick, Mr. Chairman,  
11160 because I --

11161           \*The Chairman. Yes.

11162           \*Mr. Ruiz. -- like you, would like to get this -- past  
11163 this, and move on to a vote, but it really has to be shown  
11164 that this was very clearly not well thought through, not only  
11165 in the legislative language, because it was clearly a  
11166 hyperpartisan political messaging tool from those on the  
11167 other side of the aisle.

11168           However, it also wasn't really thought out through by  
11169 showing that the 911 has many diverse services for  
11170 constituents. I was a first responder, a 911 medical control  
11171 command at -- director at the -- at Pittsburgh. And, you  
11172 know, my first call as a resident there was to extricate a  
11173 motor vehicle -- a rider, a motorcycle rider who was pinned  
11174 under a truck, bleeding blood, and I had to intubate him in  
11175 the back of an ambulance.

11176           There is numerous parents who call 911 because their  
11177 child got into some potential poisonous substance underneath  
11178 their sink, and 911 would either answer some questions, or  
11179 refer them to poison control.

11180           There is plenty of cases where there is an elderly who  
11181 calls because they can't move their left arm, and 911 needs  
11182 to call immediately to help send paramedics to their house,  
11183 to get them to the hospital, because minutes is nerve cell --  
11184 costs nerve cells, if you don't get them to the neuro lab as  
11185 soon as possible, and the doctors on this committee know.

11186           So this is one of those amendments where you don't -- if

11187     you don't give their cities the opportunity to expand the 911  
11188     system, then you are really hurting patients. You are really  
11189     hurting the very people that aren't even watching this  
11190     committee, that don't care about this committee, that -- they  
11191     believe they are having an emergency, and a health emergency  
11192     of some form, and now their local jurisdictions are going to  
11193     be punished by some partisan interpretation of this  
11194     amendment.

11195             So I really urge everybody to really use some common  
11196     sense, and look at the big picture here. And let's help make  
11197     sure that we get our patients the care that they need through  
11198     this expanded 911 service, and vote against this.

11199             I yield back.

11200             \*The Chairman. All right, I am going to proceed to a  
11201     vote, unless someone objects.

11202             So the vote is on the Johnson amendment. And we have  
11203     asked -- they have asked for a recorded vote. A recorded  
11204     vote is ordered on the Johnson amendment. Those in favor of  
11205     the Johnson amendment will say aye, those opposed to the  
11206     amendment will say no, and the clerk shall call the roll.

11207             \*The Clerk. Mr. Rush?

11208             \*Mr. Rush. Rush from Illinois votes no.

11209             \*The Clerk. Mr. Rush votes no.

11210             Ms. Eshoo?

11211             \*Ms. Eshoo. Eshoo of California votes no.

11212           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Eshoo votes no.  
11213           Ms. DeGette?  
11214           [No response.]  
11215           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Doyle?  
11216           \*Mr. Doyle.   Doyle votes no.  
11217           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Doyle votes no.  
11218           Ms. Schakowsky?  
11219           \*Ms. Schakowsky.   Schakowsky votes no.  
11220           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Schakowsky votes no.  
11221           Mr. Butterfield?  
11222           \*Mr. Butterfield.   Butterfield votes absolutely no.  
11223           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Butterfield votes no.  
11224           Ms. Matsui?  
11225           \*Ms. Matsui.   Matsui votes no.  
11226           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Matsui votes no.  
11227           Ms. Castor?  
11228           \*Ms. Castor.   [Inaudible.]  
11229           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Castor votes no.  
11230           Mr. Sarbanes?  
11231           \*Mr. Sarbanes.   Sarbanes votes no.  
11232           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Sarbanes votes no.  
11233           Mr. McNerney?  
11234           \*Mr. McNerney.   McNerney votes no.  
11235           \*The Clerk.   Mr. McNerney votes no.  
11236           Mr. Welch?

11237           \*Mr. Welch.   [Inaudible.]  
11238           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Welch votes no.  
11239           Mr. Tonko?  
11240           \*Mr. Tonko.   Tonko from New York votes no.  
11241           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Tonko votes no.  
11242           Ms. Clarke?  
11243           \*Ms. Clarke.   Clarke from New York votes no.  
11244           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Clarke votes no.  
11245           Mr. Schrader?  
11246           \*Mr. Schrader.   Schrader from Oregon votes no.  
11247           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Schrader votes no.  
11248           Mr. Cardenas?  
11249           \*Mr. Cardenas.   Cardenas, representing California, votes  
11250   no.  
11251           [Pause.]  
11252           \*Mr. Cardenas.   Want me to repeat it?   Cardenas,  
11253   representing California, votes no.   Can you see me?  
11254           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Cardenas --  
11255           \*Mr. Cardenas.   Can you hear me?  
11256           \*The Clerk.   -- votes no.  
11257           \*Mr. Cardenas.   Oh, okay, thank you.  
11258           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Ruiz?  
11259           \*Mr. Ruiz.   Ruiz votes no.  
11260           [Pause.]  
11261           \*Mr. Ruiz.   Ruiz votes no.

11262           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Ruiz votes no.  
11263           Mr. Peters?  
11264           \*Mr. Peters.   [Inaudible.]  
11265           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Peters votes no.  
11266           Mrs. Dingell?  
11267           \*Mrs. Dingell.   Dingell votes no.  
11268           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Dingell votes no.  
11269           Mr. Veasey?  
11270           \*Mr. Veasey.   Veasey votes no.  
11271           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Veasey, could you repeat your vote?   I  
11272    didn't see you.  
11273           \*Mr. Veasey.   Hold on, I am having some trouble  
11274    connecting here.   Veasey votes no.   You may want to come back  
11275    to me.  
11276           \*The Clerk.   Okay.  
11277           Ms. Kuster?  
11278           \*Ms. Kuster.   Kuster votes no.  
11279           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Kuster votes no.  
11280           Ms. Kelly?  
11281           \*Ms. Kelly.   Kelly votes no.  
11282           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Kelly votes no.  
11283           Ms. Barragan?  
11284           \*Ms. Barragan.   Barragan votes no.  
11285           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Barragan votes no.  
11286           Mr. McEachin?

11287           \*Mr. McEachin. McEachin of Virginia votes no.  
11288           \*The Clerk. Mr. McEachin votes no.  
11289           Ms. Blunt Rochester?  
11290           \*Ms. Blunt Rochester. Blunt Rochester of Delaware votes  
11291   no.  
11292           \*The Clerk. Ms. Blunt Rochester votes no.  
11293           Mr. Soto?  
11294           \*Mr. Soto. Soto of Florida votes no.  
11295           \*The Clerk. Mr. Soto votes no.  
11296           Mr. O'Halleran?  
11297           \*Mr. O'Halleran. O'Halleran votes no.  
11298           \*The Clerk. Mr. O'Halleran votes no.  
11299           Miss Rice?  
11300           \*Miss Rice. [Inaudible.]  
11301           \*The Clerk. Miss Rice votes no.  
11302           Ms. Craig?  
11303           \*Ms. Craig. Ms. Craig votes no.  
11304           \*The Clerk. Ms. Craig votes no.  
11305           Ms. Schrier?  
11306           \*Ms. Schrier. Schrier votes no.  
11307           \*The Clerk. Ms. Schrier votes no.  
11308           Mrs. Trahan?  
11309           \*Mrs. Trahan. Trahan votes no.  
11310           \*The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan votes no.  
11311           Mrs. Fletcher?



11312 \*Mrs. Fletcher. Fletcher votes no.  
11313 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher votes no.  
11314 Mrs. Rodgers?  
11315 \*Mrs. Rodgers. [Inaudible.]  
11316 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Rodgers votes aye.  
11317 Mr. Upton?  
11318 [No response.]  
11319 \*The Clerk. Mr. Burgess?  
11320 [No response.]  
11321 \*The Clerk. Mr. Scalise?  
11322 \*Mr. Scalise. Scalise votes aye.  
11323 \*The Clerk. Mr. Scalise votes aye.  
11324 Mr. Latta?  
11325 \*Mr. Latta. Latta votes aye.  
11326 \*The Clerk. Mr. Latta votes aye.  
11327 Mr. Guthrie?  
11328 \*Mr. Guthrie. Guthrie votes aye.  
11329 \*The Clerk. Mr. Guthrie votes aye.  
11330 Mr. McKinley?  
11331 \*Mr. McKinley. [Inaudible.]  
11332 \*The Clerk. Mr. McKinley votes aye.  
11333 Mr. Kinzinger?  
11334 \*Mr. Kinzinger. Kinzinger votes aye.  
11335 \*The Clerk. Mr. Kinzinger votes aye.  
11336 Mr. Griffith?

11337           \*Mr. Griffith. Votes aye.  
11338           \*The Clerk. Mr. Griffith votes aye.  
11339           Mr. Bilirakis?  
11340           \*Voice. Right. So I --  
11341           \*Mr. Bilirakis. [Inaudible.]  
11342           \*The Clerk. Mr. Bilirakis votes aye.  
11343           Mr. Johnson?  
11344           \*Mr. Johnson. Johnson votes aye.  
11345           \*The Clerk. Mr. Johnson votes aye.  
11346           Mr. Long?  
11347           \*Mr. Long. Aye.  
11348           \*The Clerk. Mr. Long votes aye.  
11349           Mr. Bucshon?  
11350           \*Mr. Bucshon. Bucshon from Indiana votes aye.  
11351           \*The Clerk. Mr. Bucshon votes aye.  
11352           Mr. Mullin?  
11353           \*Mr. Mullin. Aye.  
11354           \*The Clerk. Mr. Mullin votes aye.  
11355           Mr. Hudson?  
11356           \*Mr. Hudson. Votes aye.  
11357           \*The Clerk. Mr. Hudson votes aye.  
11358           Mr. Walberg?  
11359           \*Mr. Walberg. Mr. Walberg votes aye.  
11360           \*The Clerk. Mr. Walberg votes aye.  
11361           Mr. Carter?

11362 \*Mr. Carter. Carter from Georgia votes aye.  
11363 \*The Clerk. Mr. Carter votes aye.  
11364 Mr. Duncan?  
11365 \*Mr. Duncan. Duncan votes aye.  
11366 \*The Clerk. Mr. Duncan votes aye.  
11367 Mr. Palmer?  
11368 \*Mr. Palmer. [Inaudible.]  
11369 \*The Clerk. Mr. Palmer votes aye.  
11370 Mr. Dunn?  
11371 \*Mr. Dunn. Mr. Dunn from Florida votes aye.  
11372 \*The Clerk. Mr. Dunn votes aye.  
11373 Mr. Curtis?  
11374 \*Mr. Curtis. Curtis votes aye.  
11375 \*The Clerk. Mr. Curtis votes aye.  
11376 Mrs. Lesko?  
11377 \*Mrs. Lesko. Mrs. Lesko from Arizona votes aye.  
11378 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Lesko votes aye.  
11379 Mr. Pence?  
11380 \*Mr. Pence. Pence from Indiana votes aye.  
11381 \*The Clerk. Mr. Pence votes aye.  
11382 Mr. Crenshaw?  
11383 \*Mr. Crenshaw. Crenshaw votes aye.  
11384 \*The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw votes aye.  
11385 Mr. Joyce?  
11386 \*Mr. Joyce. Joyce votes aye.

11387           \*The Clerk. Mr. Joyce votes aye.  
11388           Mr. Armstrong?  
11389           \*Mr. Armstrong. Armstrong votes yes.  
11390           \*The Clerk. Mr. Armstrong votes aye.  
11391           Mr. Pallone?  
11392           \*The Chairman. Pallone from New Jersey votes no.  
11393           \*The Clerk. Mr. Pallone votes no.  
11394           \*Ms. DeGette. Mr. Chairman, how am I --  
11395           \*The Chairman. Ms. DeGette?  
11396           \*Ms. DeGette. How am I recorded, Mr. Chairman?  
11397           \*The Chairman. You are not. Is that Ms. DeGette?  
11398           \*Ms. DeGette. Yes.  
11399           \*The Chairman. You are not recorded.  
11400           \*Ms. DeGette. DeGette votes no.  
11401           \*The Chairman. You vote yes?  
11402           \*Ms. DeGette. DeGette votes no.  
11403           \*The Clerk. Ms. DeGette votes no.  
11404           \*The Chairman. Okay. Mr. Veasey wasn't recorded,  
11405 either, was he?  
11406           \*Mr. Veasey. Veasey votes no.  
11407           \*The Chairman. Anyone else?  
11408           Mr. Upton?  
11409           \*Mr. Upton. Aye.  
11410           \*The Clerk. Mr. Upton votes aye.  
11411           \*The Chairman. Is that it?

11412           \*The Clerk. I haven't seen Mr. Veasey.

11413           \*The Chairman. Oh, Mr. Veasey, are you still there?

11414           I think he thought that he was --

11415           \*Voice. He is right here. Ask him --

11416           \*The Chairman. We see him for some reason. Is he -- we  
11417 see him.

11418           \*The Clerk. Oh, okay, Mr. Veasey votes nay.

11419           \*Voice. He is on the screen right now.

11420           \*The Chairman. Okay, all right. So is there anyone  
11421 else who is looking to be -- are you trying to get Mr.  
11422 Burgess? All right, we will wait a minute.

11423           \*Voice. Mr. Chairman, was Mr. Veasey present on the  
11424 screen?

11425           \*The Chairman. The clerk says that he was, finally,  
11426 yes.

11427           \*Voice. He is right here. He is on the screen now.

11428           \*The Chairman. I mean, I can see him, but that doesn't  
11429 matter. They say they saw him.

11430           \*Voice. Right here, I got a little more light now.

11431           [Pause.]

11432           \*The Chairman. Okay, that is it. The clerk will report  
11433 the tally on the Johnson amendment.

11434           \*The Clerk. On that vote the yeas were 25 and the nays  
11435 were 32.

11436           \*The Chairman. All right, so the vote on the Johnson

11437 amendment is 25 ayes to 32 noes. The amendment is not agreed  
11438 to.

11439       There is -- are there further amendments to the  
11440 amendment in the nature of a --

11441       \*Mr. Griffith. Yes, Mr. Chairman.

11442       \*The Chairman. Mr. Griffith has an amendment.

11443       \*Mr. Griffith. CT12.

11444       \*The Chairman. Does the clerk have that?

11445       \*The Clerk. Yes.

11446       \*The Chairman. Okay, the clerk will report the Griffith  
11447 amendment.

11448       \*The Clerk. Amendment to Subtitle K, offered by Mr.  
11449 Griffith of Virginia. Page 7, line 9, insert after the  
11450 period at the end, the following: such --

11451       \*The Chairman. Without objection, the reading of the  
11452 amendment will be dispensed with.

11453       [The amendment of Mr. Griffith follows:]

11454

11455       \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

11456

11457           \*The Chairman. And the gentleman from Virginia is  
11458 recognized for five minutes.

11459           \*Mr. Griffith. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I  
11460 appreciate it.

11461           I had the opportunity to serve for 17 years in the state  
11462 legislature. And like our battle tonight -- we had a long  
11463 session and a short session. And like our battle tonight,  
11464 sometimes folks would fight like cats and dogs. And then,  
11465 once we were finished, we had to move to the next issue. And  
11466 often times people would listen to the next issue, and those  
11467 who were bitter enemies on the last bill found common ground  
11468 on the next bill or amendment.

11469           And so I hope that all the combatants on the last  
11470 amendment will listen to my proposal, because I think,  
11471 whether you agree with it or not, I think you will find it is  
11472 a reasonable proposal. Whether you end up voting for it or  
11473 not, I think you will find it is a reasonable proposal.

11474           So what does my amendment do?

11475           My amendment would require that the Next Generation 911  
11476 cybersecurity center described in section 31102 be located in  
11477 an area of economic need within the Appalachian region. We  
11478 took the definition of the Appalachian region from the  
11479 Appalachian Regional Commission. We took "distressed  
11480 economic area" definition from other definitions in the  
11481 code.

11482           And I think today we have established that not  
11483 everything needs to be located in Washington, D.C. This  
11484 hearing has gone from the Potomac -- and in fact, my friend  
11485 and colleague, Mr. McEachin, is close to the Atlantic Ocean.  
11486 He is not quite there with his district, and my friend Anna  
11487 Eshoo, obviously, touches the Pacific. So we have gone from  
11488 the -- almost to the Atlantic and the Pacific. We can  
11489 certainly afford to have some of the Federal Government  
11490 located outside of the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Area.

11491           And the reason that I picked this, obviously, you know,  
11492 I have a district that is economically distressed, and large  
11493 parts of Appalachia are economically distressed. Of those on  
11494 this committee who represent parts of Appalachia, mine is the  
11495 most distressed. But I touch West Virginia 3, which is more  
11496 distressed, and Kentucky 5, which is more distressed than my  
11497 district.

11498           But we talk all the time about, you know, what we are  
11499 going to try to do to reinvent the economy in the Appalachian  
11500 region. And one of the things we need to do is to start  
11501 thinking about using that area, bringing in Federal agencies  
11502 into that area. It brings in good-paying jobs. The cost of  
11503 doing business down there, rent, et cetera, is a lot less  
11504 than it is in the Washington, D.C. Metropolitan Area.

11505           So it saves the government money, it creates new jobs,  
11506 it brings people with money into the central Appalachian



11507 region and into the Appalachian region, and it doesn't say it  
11508 goes into my district or Kentucky 5, it goes into some  
11509 district. And there are a number of states -- Alabama,  
11510 Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi, New York, North  
11511 Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee,  
11512 Virginia, and all of West Virginia -- that would be eligible  
11513 to at least make a pitch, and to say we want to have it here,  
11514 and we are able to provide you what you need.

11515 I think it is a reasonable amendment. It is a win-win-  
11516 win, as we heard people say tonight. You help a distressed  
11517 area, you help people who need to have money being pumped  
11518 into their region.

11519 It is kind of interesting, because that Pacific coast  
11520 district has almost three times the amount of household  
11521 monthly income, or annual income, as my district does. And  
11522 so we really do need to help folks in the area. This is a  
11523 way to do it. It doesn't do any harm to the bill itself. It  
11524 just says when you are picking a spot, pick it in the  
11525 Appalachian region in a distressed area.

11526 I think it is a win-win-win, and I hope that everybody  
11527 would support this very reasonable, non-controversial  
11528 amendment, and I yield back.

11529 \*The Chairman. Is there anyone on the Democratic side  
11530 that -- oh, Ms. Eshoo, I believe, had her hand up.

11531 Ms. Eshoo, you are recognized for five minutes.

11532 [No response.]

11533 \*The Chairman. Or maybe not.

11534 \*Voice. Mr. McEachin was raising his hand.

11535 \*The Chairman. Mr. McEachin is raising his hand.

11536 Mr. McEachin, you are recognized for five minutes.

11537 \*Mr. McEachin. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to  
11538 ask my good friend from 9th district of Virginia, if this  
11539 amendment passes, does this give us his vote?

11540 \*Mr. Griffith. I would thank -- if the gentleman will  
11541 -- oh, I guess it is his time. If the gentleman will yield,  
11542 I would be glad to answer that.

11543 \*Mr. McEachin. I will yield.

11544 \*Mr. Griffith. This -- unfortunately, this is such a  
11545 huge bill that I cannot give him that, as he knows.  
11546 Jefferson says if you make an amendment, or a major  
11547 amendment, you ought to be willing to vote for the bill. I  
11548 consider this a minor amendment, because it doesn't change  
11549 the thrust of this section of the bill, and the rest of the  
11550 bill is so large it wouldn't even fit -- even with our more  
11551 than \$1 trillion section in this committee, we have a number  
11552 of other committees that are considering the bill. So I  
11553 cannot give him that commitment. But I think it is a very  
11554 reasonable question, and I appreciate him for that question,  
11555 and I thank the gentleman.

11556 \*Mr. McEachin. I thank the gentleman, and I yield back,

11557 Mr. Chairman.

11558 \*The Chairman. I didn't know that Jefferson said that.

11559 That is kind of interesting.

11560 \*Mr. McEachin. Well, Mr. Chairman, you have got two men  
11561 who served under Mr. Jefferson, so take our word for it.

11562 [Laughter.]

11563 \*The Chairman. That is why I asked. Does anyone else  
11564 want to address the Griffith amendment on either side?

11565 All right, then I guess -- oh, Ms. Eshoo is there. Ms.  
11566 Eshoo, would you like to be recognized?

11567 \*Ms. Eshoo. I would --

11568 \*The Chairman. For five minutes?

11569 \*Ms. Eshoo. -- Mr. Chairman, yes, thank you.

11570 \*The Chairman. The gentlewoman is recognized.

11571 \*Ms. Eshoo. I move to strike the last word.

11572 I think it is unclear what this amendment does. It is  
11573 hard to say, but it appears to require that the cyber center  
11574 required by the legislation must be located in a particular  
11575 region of the country. It seems, I don't know, it seems like  
11576 my colleagues are trying to direct the location of the  
11577 center, maybe, to their district.

11578 That is not something that is necessarily unusual, but  
11579 how do we know -- I mean, what what is the yardstick by which  
11580 we are going to measure this? Is this the best place? How  
11581 do we know it?

11582           Every single member thinks that their district is the  
11583 best district in the country. I will stipulate to that. But  
11584 I -- it is hard to know, because we are just hearing the  
11585 idea. I don't know how we measure it. And I think, if we  
11586 had received the amendment in a normal amount of time, maybe  
11587 we could have spoken with our colleagues to -- about whether  
11588 -- you know, how best to do this.

11589           I don't think it makes sense for a cyber center to be  
11590 located in Appalachia, but that is just my opinion. Maybe  
11591 the next member thinks that their district is the best one, I  
11592 just don't know. But it does seem arbitrary. And, in light  
11593 of that, I don't think that this amendment is ready for prime  
11594 time.

11595           I yield back.

11596           \*The Chairman. All right. Anyone else want to comment?  
11597 If not, we will go to a vote. All right, we -- oh, you  
11598 want a recorded vote?

11599           \*Mr. Griffith. I do want a recorded vote, Mr. Chairman,  
11600 I appreciate it.

11601           \*The Chairman. A recorded vote is ordered on the  
11602 Griffith amendment. Those was in favor of the Griffith  
11603 amendment will say aye, those opposed will say no, and the  
11604 clerk shall call the roll.

11605           \*The Clerk. Mr. Rush?

11606           \*Mr. Rush. Rush votes no.

11607           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Rush votes no.  
11608           Ms. Eshoo?  
11609           \*Ms. Eshoo.   No.  
11610           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Eshoo votes no.  
11611           Ms. DeGette?  
11612           [No response.]  
11613           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Doyle?  
11614           [No response.]  
11615           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Schakowsky?  
11616           \*Ms. Schakowsky.   No.  
11617           \*The Clerk.   Ms. --  
11618           \*Ms. Schakowsky.   Schakowsky, no.  
11619           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Schakowsky votes no.  
11620           Mr. Butterfield?  
11621           \*Mr. Butterfield.   Butterfield votes no.  
11622           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Butterfield votes no.  
11623           Ms. Matsui?  
11624           \*Ms. Matsui.   Matsui votes no.  
11625           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Matsui votes no.  
11626           Ms. Castor?  
11627           \*Ms. Castor.   Castor votes no.  
11628           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Castor votes no.  
11629           Mr. Sarbanes?  
11630           \*Mr. Sarbanes.   Sarbanes votes no.  
11631           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Sarbanes votes no.

11632 Mr. McNerney?  
11633 \*Mr. McNerney. McNerney votes no.  
11634 \*The Clerk. Mr. McNerney votes no.  
11635 Mr. Welch?  
11636 \*Mr. Welch. No.  
11637 \*The Clerk. Mr. Welch votes no.  
11638 Mr. Tonko?  
11639 \*Mr. Tonko. Tonko from New York votes no.  
11640 \*The Clerk. Mr. Tonko votes no.  
11641 Ms. Clarke?  
11642 \*Ms. Clarke. Clarke from New York votes no.  
11643 \*The Clerk. Ms. Clarke votes no.  
11644 Mr. Schrader?  
11645 [No response.]  
11646 \*The Clerk. Mr. Cardenas?  
11647 \*Mr. Cardenas. Cardenas, representing California, votes  
11648 no.  
11649 \*The Clerk. Mr. Cardenas votes no.  
11650 Mr. Ruiz?  
11651 \*Mr. Ruiz. Ruiz from California votes no.  
11652 \*The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz votes no.  
11653 Mr. Peters?  
11654 \*Mr. Peters. [Inaudible.]  
11655 \*The Clerk. Mr. Peters votes no.  
11656 Mrs. Dingell?

11657 \*Mrs. Dingell. Dingell votes no.  
11658 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell votes no.  
11659 Mr. Veasey?  
11660 \*Mr. Veasey. Veasey votes no.  
11661 \*The Clerk. Mr. Veasey votes no.  
11662 Ms. Kuster?  
11663 \*Ms. Kuster. Kuster votes no.  
11664 \*The Clerk. Ms. Kuster votes no.  
11665 Ms. Kelly?  
11666 \*Ms. Kelly. Kelly votes no.  
11667 \*The Clerk. Ms. Kelly votes no.  
11668 Ms. Barragan?  
11669 \*Ms. Barragan. Barragan votes no.  
11670 \*The Clerk. Ms. Barragan votes no.  
11671 Mr. McEachin?  
11672 [No response.]  
11673 \*The Clerk. Mr. McEachin, I think you are muted.  
11674 \*Mr. McEachin. McEachin votes yes.  
11675 \*The Clerk. Mr. McEachin votes aye.  
11676 Ms. Blunt Rochester?  
11677 \*Ms. Blunt Rochester. Blunt Rochester votes aye.  
11678 \*The Clerk. Ms. Blunt Rochester votes aye.  
11679 Mr. Soto?  
11680 \*Mr. Soto. [Inaudible.]  
11681 \*The Clerk. Mr. Soto votes no.

11682 Mr. O'Halleran?

11683 \*Mr. O'Halleran. O'Halleran votes no.

11684 \*Ms. Blunt Rochester. Mr. Chairman, how am I recorded?

11685 \*The Chairman. Who is that?

11686 \*Ms. Blunt Rochester. Blunt Rochester.

11687 \*The Chairman. Oh. How is Ms. Blunt Rochester

11688 recorded?

11689 \*The Clerk. Ms. Blunt Rochester voted aye.

11690 \*Ms. Blunt Rochester. Could I change my vote to no?

11691 Thank you.

11692 \*The Clerk. Ms. Blunt Rochester votes no.

11693 \*Mr. Doyle. Mr. Chairman, how am I recorded?

11694 \*The Chairman. Mr. Doyle?

11695 \*Mr. Doyle. Yes.

11696 \*The Clerk. Mr. Doyle is not recorded.

11697 \*The Chairman. You are not.

11698 \*Mr. Doyle. -- votes no.

11699 \*The Chairman. How do you want to vote?

11700 \*Mr. Doyle. Doyle votes --

11701 \*The Clerk. Mr. Doyle votes --

11702 \*Mr. Doyle. -- no.

11703 \*The Clerk. Mr. Doyle votes no.

11704 Mr. O'Halleran?

11705 \*Mr. O'Halleran. I voted already, but I will vote no

11706 again.



11707           \*The Chairman. O'Halleran votes no. You didn't see  
11708 him?  
11709           \*The Clerk. Mr. O'Halleran votes no.  
11710 Miss Rice?  
11711           \*Miss Rice. [Inaudible.]  
11712           \*The Clerk. Miss Rice votes no.  
11713           \*Voice. It is a bill --  
11714           \*The Clerk. Ms. Craig?  
11715           \*Voice. -- thing in Appalachia.  
11716           \*Ms. Craig. Craig of Minnesota votes no.  
11717           \*Voice. Griffith, right.  
11718           \*Mr. Schrader. Mr. Chairman, how am I recorded?  
11719           \*The Chairman. Craig, do you have Craig as a no?  
11720           \*The Clerk. Ms. Craig voted --  
11721           \*The Chairman. Mr. Schrader is not recorded.  
11722           \*The Clerk. Mr. Schrader is not recorded.  
11723           \*Mr. Schrader. I am a no.  
11724           \*The Clerk. Mr. Schrader votes no.  
11725 Ms. Schrier?  
11726           \*Ms. Schrier. Schrier votes no.  
11727           \*The Clerk. Ms. Schrier votes no.  
11728 Mrs. Trahan?  
11729           \*Mrs. Trahan. Trahan votes no.  
11730           \*The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan votes no.  
11731 Mrs. Fletcher?

11732           \*Mrs. Fletcher.   Fletcher votes no.  
11733           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Fletcher votes no.  
11734           Mrs. Rodgers?  
11735           [No response.]  
11736           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Upton?  
11737           \*Mr. Upton.   Mr. Upton votes aye.  
11738           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Upton votes aye.  
11739           Mr. Burgess?  
11740           [No response.]  
11741           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Scalise?  
11742           \*Mr. Scalise.   Since he quoted Thomas Jefferson, Mr.  
11743   Scalise votes aye.  
11744           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Scalise votes aye.  
11745           Mr. Latta?  
11746           \*Mr. Latta.   Latta votes aye.  
11747           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Latta votes aye.  
11748           Mr. Guthrie?  
11749           \*Mr. Guthrie.   Guthrie votes aye.  
11750           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Guthrie votes aye.  
11751           Mr. McKinley?  
11752           \*Mr. McKinley.   [Inaudible.]  
11753           \*The Clerk.   Mr. McKinley votes aye.  
11754           Mr. Kinzinger?  
11755           \*Mr. Kinzinger.   Kinzinger votes aye.  
11756           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Kinzinger votes aye.

11757 Mr. Griffith?  
11758 \*Mr. Griffith. [Inaudible.]  
11759 \*The Clerk. Mr. Griffith votes aye.  
11760 Mr. Bilirakis?  
11761 \*Mr. Bilirakis. [Inaudible.]  
11762 \*The Clerk. Mr. Bilirakis votes aye.  
11763 Mr. Johnson?  
11764 \*Mr. Johnson. Johnson votes aye.  
11765 \*The Clerk. Mr. Johnson votes aye.  
11766 Mr. Long?  
11767 [No response.]  
11768 \*The Clerk. Mr. Bucshon?  
11769 \*Mr. Bucshon. Bucshon from Indiana votes aye.  
11770 \*The Clerk. Mr. Bucshon votes aye.  
11771 Mr. Mullin?  
11772 \*Mr. Mullin. Yes.  
11773 [Pause.]  
11774 \*Mr. Mullin. Yes.  
11775 \*The Clerk. Mr. Mullin votes aye.  
11776 Mr. Hudson?  
11777 \*Mr. Hudson. Hudson of North Carolina votes aye.  
11778 \*The Clerk. Mr. Hudson votes aye.  
11779 Mr. Walberg?  
11780 \*Mr. Walberg. Walberg from Michigan votes aye.  
11781 \*The Clerk. Mr. Walberg votes aye.

11782 Mr. Carter?

11783 \*Mr. Carter. Carter from Georgia votes aye.

11784 \*The Clerk. Mr. Carter votes aye.

11785 Mr. Duncan?

11786 \*Mr. Duncan. Mr. Duncan votes aye.

11787 \*The Clerk. Mr. Duncan votes aye.

11788 Mr. Palmer?

11789 \*Mr. Palmer. [Inaudible.]

11790 \*The Clerk. Mr. Palmer votes aye.

11791 Mr. Dunn?

11792 \*Mr. Dunn. Mr. Dunn of Florida votes aye.

11793 \*The Clerk. Mr. Dunn votes aye.

11794 Mr. Curtis?

11795 \*Mr. Curtis. Curtis votes aye.

11796 \*The Clerk. Mr. Curtis votes aye.

11797 Mrs. Lesko?

11798 \*Mrs. Lesko. Lesko votes aye.

11799 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Lesko votes aye.

11800 Mr. Pence?

11801 \*Mr. Pence. Pence from Indiana votes aye.

11802 \*The Clerk. Mr. Pence votes aye.

11803 Mr. Crenshaw?

11804 \*Mr. Crenshaw. Crenshaw votes aye.

11805 \*The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw votes aye.

11806 Mr. Joyce?

11807           \*Mr. Joyce.   Joyce votes aye.  
11808           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Joyce votes aye.  
11809           Mr. Armstrong?  
11810           \*Mr. Armstrong.   Armstrong votes yes.  
11811           \*Voice.   Thank you.  
11812           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Armstrong votes aye.  
11813           Mr. Pallone?  
11814           \*The Chairman.   Pallone from New Jersey votes no.  
11815           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Pallone votes no.  
11816           \*Ms. DeGette.   Mr. Chairman?  
11817           \*The Chairman.   We have --  
11818           \*Ms. DeGette.   This is DeGette.   How am I recorded?  
11819           \*The Chairman.   You are not.  
11820           \*Ms. DeGette.   DeGette votes no.  
11821           \*The Clerk.   Ms. DeGette votes no.  
11822           \*The Chairman.   Mrs. Rodgers?  
11823           \*Mrs. Rodgers.   Mrs. Rodgers votes aye.  
11824           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Rodgers votes aye.  
11825           \*The Chairman.   Do you have Mr. Soto recorded?  
11826           \*The Clerk.   Yes, Mr. Soto voted nay.  
11827           \*The Chairman.   Votes no?   And how about Mr. Long?  
11828           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Long is not recorded.  
11829           \*The Chairman.   Is he available?  
11830           Is anyone -- Mr. Long or anyone else want to vote who  
11831   hasn't?

11832           \*The Clerk. I am missing Mr. Burgess, also.

11833           Oh, I didn't even hear you call him. Who -- where --  
11834 you want to check?

11835           No? All right, the clerk will report the tally on the  
11836 Griffith amendment.

11837           \*The Clerk. On that vote, Mr. Chairman, the yeas were  
11838 25 and the nays were 31.

11839           \*The Chairman. Twenty-five and thirty-one.

11840           \*The Clerk. Yes, sir.

11841           \*The Chairman. All right, so the vote on the Griffith  
11842 amendment is 25 ayes to 31 noes, and the amendment is not  
11843 agreed to.

11844           Do we have any more amendments in the -- amendments to  
11845 the ANS? Any more amendments to the ANS?

11846           \*Mrs. Rodgers. Who is next? No? Oh, no.

11847           \*The Chairman. No more? Okay, then we will go back to  
11848 the ANS, which was Ms. Eshoo's amendment in the nature of a  
11849 substitute. Do you want to vote on that, or you don't care?  
11850 This final.

11851           All right, so on that one we will do a voice vote. If  
11852 there is no further debate on amendments, we will proceed to  
11853 a vote on the amendment in the nature of a substitute to the  
11854 committee print, Subtitle K: Budget Reconciliation  
11855 Legislative Recommendations Relating to Next Generation 911.

11856           All those in favor of the amendment in the nature of a

11857 substitute to the committee print, Subtitle K: Budget  
11858 Reconciliation Legislative Recommendations Relating to Next  
11859 Generation 911 will signify by saying aye.

11860 \*Voice. Okay, I am here.

11861 \*The Chairman. All those opposed will say no.

11862 In the opinion of the chair, the ayes have it.

11863 So now we will go to a -- well, let me announce the  
11864 result on that. So the amendment in the nature of a  
11865 substitute to the committee print, Subtitle K: Budget  
11866 Reconciliation Legislative Recommendations Relating to Next  
11867 Generation 911 is agreed to.

11868 And now the question occurs on approval and transmitting  
11869 to the Committee on Budget the committee print, Subtitle K:  
11870 Budget Reconciliation Legislative Recommendations Relating to  
11871 Next Generation 911, as amended.

11872 I move the committee do now approve and transmit the  
11873 recommendations of this committee and all appropriate  
11874 accompanying material, including additional, supplemental,  
11875 minority, or dissenting views to the House Committee on the  
11876 Budget, in order to comply with the reconciliation directive  
11877 included in section 2002 of the concurrent resolution on the  
11878 budget for fiscal year 2022, S.Con.Res. 14, and consistent  
11879 with section 310 of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment  
11880 Control Act of 1974.

11881 And we are going to have a recorded vote on this. This

11882 is on final passage of the first -- of the Next Generation  
11883 911. All those in favor will signify by saying aye, those  
11884 opposed will say no, and the clerk will call the roll.

11885 \*The Clerk. Mr. Rush?

11886 \*Mr. Rush. Rush votes aye.

11887 \*The Clerk. Mr. Rush votes aye.

11888 Ms. Eshoo?

11889 \*Ms. Eshoo. Eshoo of California votes aye.

11890 \*The Clerk. Ms. Eshoo votes aye.

11891 Ms. DeGette?

11892 \*Ms. DeGette. DeGette votes aye.

11893 [Pause.]

11894 \*Ms. DeGette. DeGette votes aye.

11895 \*The Clerk. Ms. DeGette votes aye.

11896 Mr. Doyle?

11897 \*Mr. Doyle. Doyle votes yes.

11898 \*The Clerk. Mr. Doyle votes aye.

11899 Ms. Schakowsky?

11900 \*Ms. Schakowsky. Schakowsky votes aye.

11901 \*The Clerk. Ms. Schakowsky votes aye.

11902 Mr. Butterfield?

11903 \*Mr. Butterfield. Butterfield votes aye.

11904 \*The Clerk. Mr. Butterfield votes aye.

11905 Ms. Matsui?

11906 \*Ms. Matsui. Matsui votes aye.



11907           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Matsui votes aye.  
11908           Ms. Castor?  
11909           \*Ms. Castor.   Castor votes aye.  
11910           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Castor votes aye.  
11911           Mr. Sarbanes?  
11912           \*Mr. Sarbanes.   Sarbanes votes aye.  
11913           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Sarbanes votes aye.  
11914           Mr. McNerney?  
11915           \*Mr. McNerney.   McNerney votes aye.  
11916           \*The Clerk.   Mr. McNerney votes aye.  
11917           Mr. Welch?  
11918           \*Mr. Welch.   Aye.  
11919           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Welch votes aye.  
11920           Mr. Tonko?  
11921           \*Mr. Tonko.   Tonko from New York votes aye.  
11922           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Tonko votes aye.  
11923           Ms. Clarke?  
11924           \*Ms. Clarke.   Clarke from New York votes aye.  
11925           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Clarke votes aye.  
11926           Mr. Schrader?  
11927           \*Mr. Schrader.   Schrader from Oregon votes no.  
11928           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Schrader votes no.  
11929           Mr. Cardenas?  
11930           \*Mr. Cardenas.   Cardenas, representing California, votes  
11931   aye.

11932           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Cardenas votes aye.  
11933           Mr. Ruiz?  
11934           \*Mr. Ruiz.   Ruiz from California votes aye.  
11935           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Ruiz votes aye.  
11936           Mr. Peters?  
11937           \*Mr. Peters.   [Inaudible.]  
11938           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Peters votes aye.  
11939           Mrs. Dingell?  
11940           \*Mrs. Dingell.   Dingell votes aye.  
11941           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Dingell votes aye.  
11942           Mr. Veasey?  
11943           \*Mr. Veasey.   Veasey votes aye.  
11944           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Veasey votes aye.  
11945           Ms. Kuster?  
11946           \*Ms. Kuster.   Kuster votes aye.  
11947           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Kuster votes aye.  
11948           Ms. Kelly?  
11949           \*Ms. Kelly.   Kelly votes aye.  
11950           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Kelly votes aye.  
11951           Ms. Barragan?  
11952           \*Ms. Barragan.   Barragan votes aye.  
11953           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Barragan votes aye.  
11954           Mr. McEachin?  
11955           \*Mr. McEachin.   McEachin of Virginia votes aye.  
11956           \*The Clerk.   Mr. McEachin votes aye.

11957 Ms. Blunt Rochester?  
11958 \*Ms. Blunt Rochester. Blunt Rochester of Delaware votes  
11959 aye.  
11960 \*The Clerk. Ms. Blunt Rochester votes aye.  
11961 Mr. Soto?  
11962 \*Mr. Soto. Soto of Florida votes aye.  
11963 \*The Clerk. Mr. Soto votes aye.  
11964 Mr. O'Halleran?  
11965 \*Mr. O'Halleran. O'Halleran votes aye.  
11966 \*The Clerk. Mr. O'Halleran votes aye.  
11967 Miss Rice?  
11968 \*Miss Rice. [Inaudible.]  
11969 \*The Clerk. Miss Rice votes aye.  
11970 Ms. Craig?  
11971 \*Ms. Craig. Ms. Craig of Minnesota votes aye.  
11972 \*The Clerk. Ms. Craig votes aye.  
11973 Ms. Schrier?  
11974 \*Ms. Schrier. Schrier votes aye.  
11975 \*The Clerk. Ms. Schrier votes aye.  
11976 Mrs. Trahan?  
11977 \*Mrs. Trahan. Trahan votes aye.  
11978 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan votes aye.  
11979 Mrs. Fletcher?  
11980 \*Mrs. Fletcher. Fletcher votes aye.  
11981 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher votes aye.

11982 Mrs. Rodgers?  
11983 \*Mrs. Rodgers. [Inaudible.]  
11984 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Rodgers votes no.  
11985 Mr. Upton?  
11986 \*Mr. Upton. Upton votes no.  
11987 [Pause.]  
11988 \*Mr. Upton. Upton votes no.  
11989 \*The Clerk. Mr. Upton votes no.  
11990 Mr. Burgess?  
11991 [No response.]  
11992 \*The Clerk. Mr. Scalise?  
11993 \*Mr. Scalise. Mr. Scalise votes no.  
11994 \*The Clerk. Mr. Scalise votes no.  
11995 Mr. Latta?  
11996 \*Mr. Latta. Latta votes no.  
11997 \*The Clerk. Mr. Latta votes no.  
11998 Mr. Guthrie?  
11999 \*Mr. Guthrie. [Inaudible.]  
12000 \*The Clerk. Mr. Guthrie votes no.  
12001 Mr. McKinley?  
12002 \*Mr. McKinley. McKinley votes no.  
12003 \*The Clerk. Mr. McKinley votes no.  
12004 Mr. Kinzinger?  
12005 \*Mr. Kinzinger. Kinzinger, no.  
12006 \*Mr. Curtis. For the amendment.

12007           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Kinzinger votes no.  
12008           Mr. Griffith?  
12009           \*Mr. Griffith.   No.  
12010           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Griffith votes no.  
12011           Mr. Bilirakis?  
12012           \*Mr. Bilirakis.   Bilirakis votes no.  
12013           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Bilirakis votes no.  
12014           Mr. Johnson?  
12015           \*Mr. Johnson.   Johnson votes no.  
12016           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Johnson votes no.  
12017           Mr. Long?  
12018           [No response.]  
12019           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Bucshon?  
12020           \*Mr. Bucshon.   Mr. Bucshon from Indiana votes no.  
12021           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Bucshon votes no.  
12022           Mr. Mullin?  
12023           \*Mr. Mullin.   No.  
12024           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Mullin votes no.  
12025           Mr. Hudson?  
12026           \*Mr. Hudson.   Hudson of North Carolina votes no.  
12027           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Hudson votes no.  
12028           Mr. Walberg?  
12029           \*Mr. Walberg.   Walberg votes no.  
12030           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Walberg votes no.  
12031           Mr. Carter?

12032           \*Mr. Carter. Carter of Georgia votes no.  
12033           \*The Clerk. Mr. Carter votes no.  
12034           Mr. Duncan?  
12035           [No response.]  
12036           \*The Clerk. Mr. Palmer?  
12037           \*Mr. Palmer. [Inaudible.]  
12038           \*The Clerk. Mr. Palmer votes no.  
12039           Mr. Dunn?  
12040           \*Mr. Dunn. Mr. Dunn of Florida votes no.  
12041           \*The Clerk. Mr. Dunn votes no.  
12042           Mr. Curtis?  
12043           \*Mr. Curtis. Curtis votes no.  
12044           \*Mr. Duncan. Mr. Chairman, how am I recorded?  
12045           \*The Chairman. Who is that?  
12046           \*Mr. Duncan. Duncan.  
12047           \*Mr. Rush. Have they said anything about --  
12048           \*The Clerk. Mr. Duncan is not recorded.  
12049           \*Mr. Curtis. And I am sorry, Madam Clerk, did you catch  
12050 my vote? This is John Curtis.  
12051           \*The Clerk. Yes, Mr. Curtis voted no.  
12052           \*Mr. Curtis. Thank you.  
12053           \*Mr. Duncan. Mr. Duncan votes no.  
12054           \*The Clerk. Mr. Duncan votes no.  
12055           Mrs. Lesko?  
12056           \*Mrs. Lesko. Lesko votes no.

12057           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Lesko votes no.  
12058           Mr. Pence?  
12059           \*Mr. Pence.   [Inaudible.]  
12060           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Pence votes no.  
12061           Mr. Crenshaw?  
12062           \*Mr. Crenshaw.   Crenshaw votes no.  
12063           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Crenshaw votes no.  
12064           Mr. Joyce?  
12065           \*Mr. Joyce.   Joyce votes no.  
12066           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Joyce votes no.  
12067           Mr. Armstrong?  
12068           \*Mr. Armstrong.   Armstrong votes no.  
12069           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Armstrong votes no.  
12070           Mr. Pallone?  
12071           \*The Chairman.   Pallone from New Jersey votes aye.  
12072           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Pallone votes aye.  
12073           \*Ms. DeGette.   Mr. Chairman?  
12074           \*The Chairman.   Yes?  
12075           \*Ms. DeGette.   DeGette votes no.   I mean aye.   DeGette  
12076   votes aye.  
12077           \*The Chairman.   Okay.  
12078           \*The Clerk.   Ms. DeGette votes aye.  
12079           \*The Chairman.   I only -- is there anyone who hasn't  
12080   voted who is here, or who wants to vote?  
12081           Burgess?   All right, everybody -- we are done?

12082           The clerk will report the tally.

12083           [Pause.]

12084           \*The Clerk.   On that vote, Mr. Chairman, the yeas were  
12085   31 and the nays were 25.

12086           \*The Chairman.   Twenty-five?

12087           \*The Clerk.   Yes.

12088           \*The Chairman.   Okay, so this is on Next Generation 911.

12089           \*Mrs. Rodgers.   Mr. Chairman?

12090           \*The Chairman.   Subtitle K -- let me just announce it.

12091           \*Mrs. Rodgers.   Oh, yes, yes, yes.

12092           \*The Chairman.   The vote is 31 ayes to 25 noes.

12093           Mrs. Rodgers?

12094           \*Mrs. Rodgers.   Mr. Chair, I plan to file views, and  
12095   request the usual number of days.

12096           \*The Chairman.   Without objection, so ordered.

12097           The committee has approved the committee print, Subtitle  
12098   K:   Budget Reconciliation Legislative Recommendations  
12099   Relating Next Generation 911, as amended, and ordered the  
12100   legislative recommendations transmitted to the Committee on  
12101   Budget.

12102           [Pause.]

12103           \*Mr. Tonko.   [Presiding] The chair calls up the  
12104   committee print, Subtitle L:   Budget -- Subtitle L:   Budget  
12105   Reconciliation Legislative Recommendations Relating to  
12106   Wireless Connectivity.   The clerk will report the title of



12107 the bill, please.

12108 \*The Clerk. Committee print by the Committee on Energy  
12109 and Commerce, providing reconciliation pursuant to S.Con.Res.  
12110 14 --

12111 \*Mr. Tonko. Without objection, the first reading of the  
12112 bill will be dispensed with. The bill is now considered as  
12113 read.

12114 Without objection, the bill is considered as read, and  
12115 open for amendment at any point.

12116 [The bill follows:]

12117

12118 \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

12119

12120           \*Mr. Tonko. Are there any members seeking recognition  
12121 to speak on the committee print Subtitle L: Budget  
12122 Reconciliation Legislative Recommendations Relating to  
12123 Wireless Connectivity?

12124           \*Mr. McKinley. Mr. Chairman, can you not use your mask?

12125           \*Mr. Doyle. Mr. Chairman?

12126           \*Mr. Tonko. Oh, sure.

12127           \*Mr. McKinley. Thank you.

12128           \*Mr. Tonko. You are welcome.

12129 Who seeks recognition?

12130           \*Mr. Doyle. Mr. Chairman, Mr. Doyle.

12131           \*Mr. Tonko. Okay, Mr. Doyle. For what purpose does the  
12132 member seek recognition?

12133           \*Mr. Doyle. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment in the  
12134 nature of a substitute at the desk. It is titled Sub L --

12135           \*Mr. Tonko. The clerk will report the amendment.

12136           \*The Clerk. Amendment in the nature of a substitute to  
12137 Subtitle L, offered by Mr. Doyle of Pennsylvania. Strike  
12138 all, and insert the following: Subtitle L --

12139           \*Mr. Tonko. Without objection, the reading of the  
12140 amendment will be dispensed with.

12141           [The amendment of Mr. Doyle follows:]

12142

12143           \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

12144

12145           \*Mr. Tonko. Mr. Doyle is now recognized for five  
12146 minutes, please.

12147           \*Mr. Doyle. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. My amendment in  
12148 the nature of a substitute makes technical and conforming  
12149 changes to the committee print for Subtitle L.

12150           Colleagues, this subtitle provides a very important  
12151 authorization when it comes to spectrum policy. In recent  
12152 years, unfortunately, there has been a push to put individual  
12153 spectrum-using agencies in charge of our spectrum and auction  
12154 process. This is bad policy, especially when the time-tested  
12155 cooperation between the Department of Commerce, the FCC, and  
12156 the White House, overseen by this committee, has proven to  
12157 produce excellent results for the Federal Government and  
12158 innovation in our nation.

12159           And it is through this long-established process that we  
12160 have seen hundreds of billions of dollars returned to  
12161 taxpayers.

12162           Stepping back for a second, I would note that the  
12163 Infrastructure Investment and Job Act, otherwise known as the  
12164 bipartisan infrastructure deal passed by the Senate, includes  
12165 a provision that deals with the ban under discussion today.  
12166 The Senate's provision improperly puts other agencies in a  
12167 leadership role when it comes to spectrum auctions. This  
12168 subtitle would right that wrong.

12169           In addition to requiring the auction of 200 megahertz of

12170 spectrum between the 3.1 and 3.45 gigahertz, this subtitle  
12171 also makes Spectrum available for unlicensed, licensed by  
12172 rule, and opportunistic spectrum uses in the band. Spectrum  
12173 allocations of this type promote innovation, and help  
12174 inventors and entrepreneurs create the next big breakthrough,  
12175 like Wi-Fi or Bluetooth.

12176         And it bears stressing that the amendment for you today  
12177 has the benefit of generating far more auction revenue than  
12178 what we saw from the Senate. So instead of spending more, we  
12179 are raising more, making this auction more fiscally  
12180 responsible.

12181         Of course, this subtitle is merely about one band, and I  
12182 know there are bipartisan members of this committee that are  
12183 looking to comprehensively updating our spectrum pipeline,  
12184 generally. I believe that is an important policy to consider  
12185 going forward, and something that I hope we can continue to  
12186 work together on.

12187         But when it comes to what is before us now, this is an  
12188 important amendment, and an important subtitle, and I urge my  
12189 colleagues to support it.

12190         Mr. Chairman, with that I will yield back.

12191         \*Mr. Tonko. The gentleman yields back. Are there other  
12192 members seeking recognition to speak on the amendment?

12193         \*Mr. Latta. Mr. Chairman?

12194         \*Mr. Tonko. Mr. Latta, please?

12195           \*Mr. Latta. Oh, thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. And  
12196 I apologize for my voice. It is allergy season. But I have  
12197 a question for counsel.

12198           \*Mr. Tonko. Please direct that question to counsel,  
12199 please.

12200           \*Mr. Latta. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.  
12201 Counsel, this subtitle authorizes the Federal  
12202 Communications Commission to auction 200 megahertz of 3.1 to  
12203 3.45 gigahertz band. Is that correct?

12204           \*Counselor. Yes, Congressman. I think you are  
12205 referring to paragraph three of the bill, which says not  
12206 later than seven years after the date of enactment of this  
12207 Act, the Commission, in coordination with the assistant  
12208 secretary, shall commence a system of competitive bidding  
12209 under section 309J of the Communications Act of 1934, in  
12210 accordance with paragraph two of this subsection.

12211           \*Mr. Latta. Thank you.

12212           Mr. Chairman, would this auction possibly score as --  
12213 with the spectrum auction --

12214           [Audio malfunction.]

12215           \*Mr. Latta. -- of what we are spending today? And if  
12216 so, what would that amount be?

12217           \*Mr. Tonko. I am sorry, is that a question for counsel?

12218           \*Mr. Latta. Well, more for the chairman, but let me  
12219 just go on, if I may.

12220           Mr. Chairman, the Senate infrastructure bill that passed  
12221 the Senate, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, also  
12222 authorized the auction of 3.1 to 3.45 gigahertz band, and --  
12223 Congressional Budget Office estimated it would offset --  
12224 billion -- cost of that legislation.

12225           So if this legislation in the Senate infrastructure  
12226 proposal authorized the same spectrum auction, then one of  
12227 the pieces of legislation is not being paid for.

12228           [Audio malfunction.]

12229           \*Mr. Latta. -- the Senate infrastructure package before  
12230 the Energy and Commerce Committee, which includes many areas  
12231 -- this committee to see what was actually passed. What else  
12232 has fallen through the cracks of regular order?

12233           Mr. Chairman, we need to be honest with the American  
12234 people. While this language may make it seem like some of  
12235 the costs of the bill are being offset, that is misleading  
12236 because the exact same pay-for is being used to pay for the  
12237 Senate infrastructure legislation. So --

12238           [Audio malfunction.]

12239           \*Mr. Latta. The Democrats are now proposing to raise  
12240 taxes by over 2.5 trillion to pay for the socialist takeover  
12241 of the government. We need to stop the reckless tax-and-  
12242 spending spree, and be transparent to the American people.  
12243 The \$1 trillion package we are considering today will only  
12244 result in more inflation and less innovation.

12245           And I yield back.

12246           \*Mr. Tonko. The gentleman yields back. Are there other  
12247 members seeking recognition to speak on the amendment?

12248           Representative Clarke from New York, you are recognized.

12249           \*Ms. Clarke. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last  
12250 word.

12251           \*Mr. Tonko. The gentlewoman is recognized for five  
12252 minutes.

12253           \*Ms. Clarke. Mr. Chairman, in recent years,  
12254 unfortunately, we have seen a push from spectrum-using  
12255 agencies to be more in control of a process that should be  
12256 led by the Department of Commerce and the FCC. I am talking  
12257 about spectrum reallocation. In fact, the Senate-passed  
12258 version of the Infrastructure Investment and Job Act put  
12259 other agencies in a leadership role when it comes to making  
12260 the 3.1 to 3.45 band available.

12261           But I do take some solace in knowing that on this  
12262 committee we know how important it is for spectrum-managing  
12263 agencies to lead. That process has led to some incredibly  
12264 innovative policies, when you think about unlicensed  
12265 spectrum, 5G, the citizens broadband radio service, and more.  
12266 And there is really no good reason to alter a formula that we  
12267 know already works.

12268           This bill ensures that any auction of spectrum in the  
12269 3.1 to 3.45 gigahertz band would be run by the FCC, who has a

12270 long and successful track record in running auctions. The  
12271 Department of Commerce, on the other hand, is the lead when  
12272 it comes to spectrum reallocation. By doing that, this  
12273 provision will raise more money, as much as 10 billion more,  
12274 for the Treasury. Let me repeat that, as much as 10 billion  
12275 more. By getting the policy right, and leveraging the expert  
12276 agencies on spectrum, we can raise 10 billion more dollars  
12277 for the American people. Why would we not do that? It  
12278 seems obvious.

12279 I urge all my colleagues to vote for this amendment.  
12280 With that I yield back.

12281 \*Mr. Tonko. The gentleman yields back. Are there any  
12282 other members seeking recognition on the amendment?

12283 Seeing -- okay. The chair recognizes Representative  
12284 Matsui for -- or for what purpose do you seek recognition,  
12285 Representative Matsui?

12286 \*Ms. Matsui. Okay, Mr. Chairman.

12287 \*Voice. Move to strike the last word.

12288 \*Mr. Tonko. The gentlewoman is recognized for five  
12289 minutes.

12290 \*Ms. Matsui. Okay, Mr. Chairman, thank you very much.  
12291 This plan includes -- much-needed mid-band spectrum in the --  
12292 gigahertz band -- is really an important step forward.

12293 Now, while there is other legislation to address this  
12294 band, I believe the language before us is a significant



12295 improvement. By requiring 200 megahertz to be made  
12296 available, we are asserting a clear commitment to winning the  
12297 race to 5G and beyond.

12298 Now, while it is important to ensure that our Federal  
12299 agencies have the resources they need to complete their  
12300 missions, especially when there are national security  
12301 implications, we must also assure that the United States has  
12302 a healthy pipeline of spectrum to boost innovation and job  
12303 creation.

12304 Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I yield back.

12305 \*Mr. Tonko. The gentlewoman yields back. For what  
12306 purposes does Representative McNerney seek recognition?

12307 \*Mr. McNerney. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last  
12308 word on the ANS.

12309 \*Mr. Tonko. The gentleman is recognized for five  
12310 minutes.

12311 \*Mr. McNerney. I thank the chairman. The internet has  
12312 transformed people's lives, and much of that transformation  
12313 has come about through wireless connectivity. 5g technology  
12314 and new Wi-Fi technologies move us toward a wireless future  
12315 with faster data rates, lower latency, and more capacity for  
12316 a more powerful network.

12317 And the United States has focused recently on making  
12318 mid-band spectrum available. Some of us call it the  
12319 Goldilocks portion of the spectrum, because it has great

12320 properties. It is just right. The mid-band frequencies are  
12321 low enough that they give mid-band spectrum important  
12322 propagation characteristics that allow it to pass through  
12323 walls, and travel greater distances. At the same time, the  
12324 mid-band spectrum is high enough so that it also allows  
12325 greater capacity, allowing for more demanding internet  
12326 applications like augmented reality and virtual reality.

12327         The Build Back Better Act, as strengthened by this  
12328 amendment, will foster innovation by setting aside 200  
12329 megahertz of mid-band spectrum, while still allowing for  
12330 permissionless, opportunistic, or license-by-rule uses of  
12331 spectrum to help Americans invent the next big breakthrough  
12332 in wireless technology. And I can't wait to see where that  
12333 is going to be.

12334         So I am pleased to support this ANS, and I thank you,  
12335 and I yield back.

12336         \*Mr. Tonko. The gentleman yields back. Are there any  
12337 other members seeking recognition?

12338         Mr. Schrader, Representative Schrader, for what purpose  
12339 do you seek --

12340         \*Mr. Schrader. I would like to strike the last word.

12341         \*Mr. Tonko. The gentleman is recognized for five  
12342 minutes.

12343         \*Mr. Schrader. I would just like to express my support  
12344 for the spectrum auction provision of this particular

12345 legislation, but would point out to the body that this is  
12346 already anticipated in the Bipartisan Infrastructure  
12347 Framework. So I am not sure there is a reason to go for it  
12348 in this particular package.

12349 And I yield back, sir.

12350 \*Mr. Tonko. The gentleman yields back. Are there any  
12351 other members seeking recognition?

12352 Any other members?

12353 Seeing or hearing none, we will then move to a vote on  
12354 the underlying amendment, the ANS amendment.

12355 \*Mrs. Rodgers. Mr. Chairman, we ask for a recorded  
12356 vote.

12357 \*Mr. Tonko. Recorded?

12358 \*Mrs. Rodgers. Well, on final passage.

12359 \*Mr. Tonko. Okay, so this one we are fine with a voice  
12360 vote?

12361 \*Mrs. Rodgers. Yes.

12362 \*Mr. Tonko. So all those who are in favor of the  
12363 underlying ANS, indicate by saying aye.

12364 Those opposed? Those opposed?

12365 The ayes have it.

12366 [Laughter.]

12367 \*Mr. Tonko. And the underlying amendment is approved.

12368 Now we will go to the voice -- the recorded vote on the  
12369 ANS. It is -- recorded -- is ordered, and those in favor of

12370 the amendment will say aye, those opposed to the amendment  
12371 will say no, and the clerk shall call the roll, please.

12372 \*The Clerk. Mr. Rush?

12373 \*Mr. Rush. Aye.

12374 \*The Clerk. Mr. Rush votes aye.

12375 Ms. Eshoo?

12376 \*Ms. Eshoo. Eshoo of California votes aye.

12377 \*The Clerk. Ms. Eshoo votes aye.

12378 Ms. DeGette?

12379 \*Ms. DeGette. DeGette votes aye.

12380 \*The Clerk. Ms. DeGette votes aye.

12381 Mr. Doyle?

12382 \*Mr. Doyle. Doyle votes aye.

12383 \*The Clerk. Mr. Doyle votes aye.

12384 Ms. Schakowsky?

12385 \*Ms. Schakowsky. Votes aye.

12386 \*The Clerk. Ms. Schakowsky votes aye.

12387 Mr. Butterfield?

12388 \*Mr. Butterfield. Butterfield votes aye.

12389 \*The Clerk. Mr. Butterfield votes aye.

12390 Ms. Matsui?

12391 \*Ms. Matsui. Matsui votes aye.

12392 \*The Clerk. Ms. Matsui votes aye.

12393 Ms. Castor?

12394 \*Ms. Castor. Castor votes aye.

12395           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Castor votes aye.  
12396           Mr. Sarbanes?  
12397           \*Mr. Sarbanes.   Sarbanes votes aye.  
12398           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Sarbanes votes aye.  
12399           Mr. McNerney?  
12400           \*Mr. McNerney.   McNerney votes aye.  
12401           \*The Clerk.   Mr. McNerney votes aye.  
12402           Mr. Welch?  
12403           \*Mr. Welch.   Aye.  
12404           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Welch votes aye.  
12405           Mr. Tonko?  
12406           \*Mr. Tonko.   Tonko from New York votes aye.  
12407           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Tonko votes aye.  
12408           Ms. Clarke?  
12409           \*Ms. Clarke.   Clarke from New York votes aye.  
12410           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Clarke votes aye.  
12411           Mr. Schrader?  
12412           \*Mr. Schrader.   Schrader from Oregon votes no.  
12413           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Schrader votes no.  
12414           Mr. Cardenas?  
12415           \*Mr. Cardenas.   Cardenas votes aye.  
12416           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Cardenas votes aye.  
12417           Mr. Ruiz?  
12418           \*Mr. Ruiz.   Ruiz from California votes aye.  
12419           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Ruiz votes aye.

12420 Mr. Peters?

12421 \*Mr. Peters. [Inaudible.]

12422 \*The Clerk. Mr. Peters votes aye.

12423 Mrs. Dingell?

12424 \*Mrs. Dingell. Dingell votes aye.

12425 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell votes aye.

12426 Mr. Veasey?

12427 \*Mr. Veasey. Veasey votes aye.

12428 \*The Clerk. Mr. Veasey votes aye.

12429 Ms. Kuster?

12430 \*Ms. Kuster. Kuster votes aye.

12431 \*The Clerk. Ms. Kuster votes aye.

12432 Ms. Kelly?

12433 \*Ms. Kelly. Kelly votes aye.

12434 \*The Clerk. Ms. Kelly votes aye.

12435 Ms. Barragan?

12436 \*Ms. Barragan. Barragan votes aye.

12437 \*The Clerk. Ms. Barragan votes aye.

12438 Mr. McEachin?

12439 \*Mr. McEachin. McEachin of Virginia votes aye.

12440 \*The Clerk. Mr. McEachin votes aye.

12441 Ms. Blunt Rochester?

12442 \*Ms. Blunt Rochester. Blunt Rochester votes aye.

12443 \*The Clerk. Ms. Blunt Rochester votes aye.

12444 Mr. Soto?

12445 \*Mr. Soto. Soto votes aye.  
12446 \*The Clerk. Mr. Soto votes aye.  
12447 Mr. O'Halleran?  
12448 \*Mr. O'Halleran. O'Halleran votes aye.  
12449 \*The Clerk. Mr. O'Halleran votes aye.  
12450 Miss Rice?  
12451 \*Miss Rice. [Inaudible.]  
12452 \*The Clerk. Miss Rice votes aye.  
12453 Ms. Craig?  
12454 \*Ms. Craig. Craig from Minnesota votes aye.  
12455 \*The Clerk. Ms. Craig votes aye.  
12456 Ms. Schrier?  
12457 \*Ms. Schrier. Schrier votes aye.  
12458 \*The Clerk. Ms. Schrier votes aye.  
12459 Mrs. Trahan?  
12460 \*Mrs. Trahan. Trahan votes aye.  
12461 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan votes aye.  
12462 Mrs. Fletcher?  
12463 \*Mrs. Fletcher. Fletcher votes aye.  
12464 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher votes aye.  
12465 Mrs. Rodgers?  
12466 \*Mrs. Rodgers. [Inaudible.]  
12467 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Rodgers votes no.  
12468 Mr. Upton?  
12469 \*Mr. Upton. Upton votes no.

12470 [Pause.]

12471 \*Mr. Upton. Upton votes no.

12472 \*The Clerk. Mr. Upton votes no.

12473 Mr. Burgess?

12474 \*Mr. Burgess. Burgess votes no.

12475 \*The Clerk. Mr. Burgess votes no.

12476 Mr. Scalise?

12477 \*Mr. Scalise. Scalise votes no.

12478 \*The Clerk. Mr. Scalise votes no.

12479 Mr. Latta?

12480 \*Mr. Latta. Latta votes no.

12481 \*The Clerk. Mr. Latta votes no.

12482 Mr. Guthrie?

12483 \*Mr. Guthrie. Guthrie votes no.

12484 \*The Clerk. Mr. Guthrie votes no.

12485 Mr. McKinley?

12486 \*Mr. McKinley. [Inaudible.]

12487 \*The Clerk. Mr. McKinley votes no.

12488 Mr. Kinzinger?

12489 \*Mr. Kinzinger. Kinzinger, no.

12490 \*The Clerk. Mr. Kinzinger votes no.

12491 Mr. Griffith?

12492 \*Mr. Griffith. [Inaudible.]

12493 \*The Clerk. Mr. Griffith votes no.

12494 Mr. Bilirakis?



12495 \*Mr. Bilirakis. [Inaudible.]  
12496 \*The Clerk. Mr. Bilirakis votes no.  
12497 Mr. Johnson?  
12498 \*Mr. Johnson. Johnson votes no.  
12499 \*The Clerk. Mr. Johnson votes no.  
12500 Mr. Long?  
12501 [No response.]  
12502 \*The Clerk. Mr. Bucshon?  
12503 \*Mr. Bucshon. Bucshon from Indiana votes no.  
12504 \*The Clerk. Mr. Bucshon votes no.  
12505 Mr. Mullin?  
12506 [No response.]  
12507 \*The Clerk. Mr. Mullin?  
12508 [No response.]  
12509 \*The Clerk. Skip him.  
12510 Mr. Hudson?  
12511 \*Mr. Mullin. I am here.  
12512 \*Mr. Hudson. Hudson of North Carolina --  
12513 \*Mr. Mullin. I am here.  
12514 \*Mr. Hudson. -- votes no.  
12515 \*The Clerk. Mr. Hudson votes no.  
12516 \*Mr. Mullin. Mullin is here. Mullin is here.  
12517 \*The Clerk. Mr. Mullin, how do you vote?  
12518 \*Mr. Mullin. No.  
12519 \*The Clerk. Mr. Mullin votes no.

12520 Mr. Walberg?

12521 \*Mr. Walberg. Walberg votes no.

12522 \*The Clerk. Mr. Walberg, can you repeat your vote,

12523 please?

12524 \*Mr. Walberg. Walburg votes no.

12525 \*The Clerk. There he goes. Mr. Walberg votes no.

12526 Mr. Carter?

12527 \*Mr. Carter. Carter from Georgia votes nay.

12528 \*The Clerk. Mr. Carter votes no.

12529 Mr. Duncan?

12530 \*Mr. Duncan. Duncan of South Carolina votes no.

12531 \*The Clerk. Mr. Duncan votes no.

12532 Mr. Palmer?

12533 \*Mr. Palmer. [Inaudible.]

12534 \*The Clerk. Mr. Palmer votes no.

12535 Mr. Dunn?

12536 \*Mr. Dunn. Mr. Dunn of Florida votes no.

12537 \*The Clerk. Mr. Dunn votes no.

12538 Mr. Curtis?

12539 \*Mr. Curtis. Curtis votes no.

12540 \*The Clerk. Mr. Curtis votes no.

12541 Mrs. Lesko?

12542 \*Mrs. Lesko. Lesko votes no.

12543 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Lesko votes no.

12544 Mr. Pence?

12545           \*Mr. Pence. Pence from Indiana votes no.  
12546           \*The Clerk. Mr. Pence votes no.  
12547           Mr. Crenshaw?  
12548           \*Mr. Crenshaw. Crenshaw votes no.  
12549           \*The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw votes no.  
12550           Mr. Joyce?  
12551           \*Mr. Joyce. Joyce votes no.  
12552           \*The Clerk. Mr. Joyce votes no.  
12553           Mr. Armstrong?  
12554           \*Mr. Armstrong. Armstrong votes no.  
12555           \*The Clerk. Mr. Armstrong votes no.  
12556           Chairman Pallone?  
12557           \*The Chairman. Pallone from New Jersey votes yes.  
12558           \*The Clerk. Chairman Pallone votes aye.  
12559           \*Mr. Tonko. To be clear, the committee has just moved  
12560 to approve and transmit the recommendations of this  
12561 committee, and all appropriate accompanying material,  
12562 including additional, supplemental, minority, or dissenting  
12563 views, to the House Committee on the Budget in order to  
12564 comply with the reconciliation directive included in section  
12565 2002 of the concurrent resolution on the budget for fiscal  
12566 year 2022, S.Con.Res. 14, and consistent with section 310 of  
12567 the Congressional Budget and Impoundment Control Act of 1974.  
12568           With that being said, Madam Clerk, are any members still  
12569 needing to record their vote?

12570           \*The Clerk. I don't have Mr. Long.

12571           \*Mrs. Rodgers. Let him go.

12572           \*Mr. Tonko. Okay.

12573           \*Mrs. Rodgers. We don't, either.

12574           [Laughter.]

12575           \*Mr. Tonko. Okay, does any member wish to change her or  
12576 his vote?

12577           If not, the clerk will report the tally, please.

12578           \*The Clerk. On that vote the yeas were 31 and the nays  
12579 were 26.

12580           \*Mr. Tonko. So the vote, 31 to 26, is a yes vote. It  
12581 is approved. The committee has approved the committee print,  
12582 Subtitle L: Budget Reconciliation Legislative  
12583 Recommendations Relating to Wireless Connectivity, as  
12584 amended, and ordered the legislative recommendations  
12585 transmitted to the Committee on Budget.

12586           And the Chair recognizes our minority ranking member.

12587           \*Mrs. Rodgers. Thank you, Mr. Chair. I plan to file  
12588 views, and request the usual number of days.

12589           \*Mr. Tonko. So granted.

12590           [Pause.]

12591           \*The Chairman. [Presiding] All right, the chair calls  
12592 up the committee print Subtitle M: Budget Reconciliation  
12593 Legislative Recommendations Relating to Distance Learning,  
12594 and the clerk will report the title of the bill.

12595           \*The Clerk. Committee print by the Committee on Energy  
12596 and Commerce, providing for reconciliation pursuant --

12597           \*The Chairman. And Madam Clerk, without objection, the  
12598 first reading of the bill would be dispensed with. The bill  
12599 is now considered as read.

12600           And without objection, the bill is considered as read,  
12601 and open for amendment at any point.

12602           [The bill follows:]

12603

12604           \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

12605

12606           \*Mr. Welch. Mr. Chairman?

12607           \*The Chairman. You want to offer the ANS? Okay. Mr.  
12608 Welch?

12609           \*Mr. Welch. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have an  
12610 amendment in the nature of a substitute at the desk. It is  
12611 titled Learning Recon 01.

12612           \*The Chairman. All right. Do you have that amendment,  
12613 Madam Clerk?

12614           \*The Clerk. Yes.

12615           \*The Chairman. The clerk will report the amendment.

12616           \*The Clerk. Amendment in the nature of a substitute to  
12617 Subtitle M, offered by Mr. Welch of Vermont. Strike --

12618           \*The Chairman. And without objection, Madam Clerk, the  
12619 reading of the amendment will be dispensed with.

12620           [The amendment of Mr. Welch follows:]

12621

12622           \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

12623

12624           \*The Chairman. And the gentleman from Vermont is now  
12625 recognized for five minutes.

12626           \*Mr. Welch. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

12627           This committee, on a bipartisan basis, first raised the  
12628 absolute urgency of getting rural America and all of America  
12629 connected. We can't live in this modern world without  
12630 Internet connectivity, any more than we could live without  
12631 electricity.

12632           And in the American Recovery Plan, which we passed  
12633 together, the -- there was \$7 billion in an Emergency  
12634 Connectivity Fund to provide funding for school libraries,  
12635 and for the purchase, during COVID, of 19 pandemic or  
12636 connected devices and broadband connections that students  
12637 used, school staff used, and library patrons used. It was a  
12638 tremendous asset that really made a difference for lots of  
12639 families.

12640           This amendment would add \$4 billion, and what it would  
12641 do is two things: one, extend that opportunity to provide  
12642 devices; but also, it would allow, through the libraries, to  
12643 -- the opportunity to pay for the connectivity in the homes  
12644 of those kids who need the Internet.

12645           And a lot of us probably have experiences in our  
12646 districts, and especially in rural districts, where we saw  
12647 moms driving their kids outside of the library, or they saw  
12648 the moms driving the kids to, like, a McDonald's, where there

12649 was Internet access, and the kids would be doing homework.  
12650 We saw lots of situations where kids were using their mom's  
12651 iPhone, if that had some connectivity, and they were trying  
12652 to do the work as best they could.

12653 In Vermont, I went up to the Northeast Kingdom -- and I  
12654 invite you all to come up there, it is this beautiful place  
12655 right on the Canadian border -- in this little town of  
12656 Gilman, where they have this tiny school of 28 kids, and we  
12657 love them all, and they are fantastic kids. But they had no  
12658 Internet, and they were roaming around, trying to find places  
12659 where there was some way to connect. And the superintendent  
12660 was a big advocate of this. The FCC commissioner came up.

12661 This program is making a difference, and the kids have  
12662 to have it. So this is a \$4 billion program that allows, not  
12663 just addressing the access to the Internet, but -- there is  
12664 two impediments to Internet access. One is getting America  
12665 wired, and we are all working on that. But the other is that  
12666 a lot of kids can't afford it. They just can't afford it.  
12667 In fact, 40 percent of families whose incomes are under  
12668 \$30,000 in your district or my district, they don't have  
12669 Internet because of the expense.

12670 And this is really a way to do two things: give the  
12671 device that is necessary through the libraries; and then,  
12672 secondly, to make it affordable through the libraries for  
12673 these kids to do their homework in their home.



12674           So I think that is as important in every one of our  
12675 districts. It doesn't matter whether the folks there voted  
12676 for Trump or they voted for Biden. They need the Internet to  
12677 do their work, to find out what is going on in the world, and  
12678 to become successful.

12679           There is a couple of other small provisions in here,  
12680 minor edits, that would ensure that the bill have funding for  
12681 the inspector general to address any waste, fraud, and abuse.  
12682 And let's acknowledge that, just because a program has good  
12683 intentions doesn't mean that it can be exempt from good  
12684 oversight. So that is a part of this bill.

12685           And we also make certain that the funds we appropriate  
12686 here are not used to fund suspect equipment like that  
12687 produced from Huawei or ZTE.

12688           So keeping this program is going to be really tremendous  
12689 for a lot of folks in Gilman, Vermont. But I am sure that it  
12690 is going to help in a comparable small town in the districts  
12691 of all of my colleagues. So I urge that we all support this  
12692 amendment.

12693           And with that I yield back, Mr. Chairman.

12694           \*The Chairman. I thank the gentleman. Does anyone --  
12695 did you yield back? Does anyone want to speak to this on  
12696 the Republican side?

12697           No one wants to speak on the ANS? Okay. So then -- to  
12698 offer an amendment to the ANS?

12699 Mr. Carter is -- well, Mr. Carter, what is it labeled?

12700 \*Mr. Carter. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the  
12701 desk, CT19.

12702 \*The Chairman. Does the clerk have that Carter  
12703 amendment?

12704 \*The Clerk. Yes, sir.

12705 \*The Chairman. All right. The clerk will report that  
12706 amendment.

12707 \*The Clerk. Amendment to Subtitle M, offered by Mr.  
12708 Carter of Georgia. Page 2 --

12709 \*The Chairman. Without objection, Madam Clerk, the  
12710 reading of the amendment will be dispensed with.

12711 [The amendment of Mr. Carter follows:]

12712

12713 \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

12714

12715           \*The Chairman. And the gentleman from Georgia is  
12716 recognized for five minutes.

12717           \*Mr. Carter. Mr. Chairman, the effect of the pandemic  
12718 has been longlasting and wide-ranging. It has affected all  
12719 of us in different ways, but it has especially impacted our  
12720 children and their education.

12721           For so many across this nation, our children have been  
12722 Zooming through their studies during a critical time in their  
12723 development. Because of the last few school years, they  
12724 (sic) have been impacted by the pandemic, our nation's  
12725 parents have now learned more of what their children are  
12726 being taught in the virtual classroom. So many families are  
12727 waking up to not just how their children are being  
12728 instructed, but also to what they are being taught.

12729           My amendment would address both of these issues. It  
12730 would help get students and teachers back in the classroom,  
12731 and address an issue that is raising its ugly head in schools  
12732 throughout America: critical race theory, CRT.

12733           My amendment would prohibit appropriated funds from the  
12734 Emergency Connectivity Fund to any school that teaches  
12735 critical race theory. CRT makes race the prism through which  
12736 its proponents analyze all aspects of American life,  
12737 categorizing individuals into groups of oppressors and  
12738 victims. When followed to its logical conclusion, CRT is  
12739 destructive, and rejects the fundamental ideas on which our

12740 constitutional republic is based. Applying this philosophy  
12741 would violate a multitude of American civil rights laws by  
12742 treating people differently, according to race.

12743         For years, the far left has been pushing CRT into our  
12744 public formative institutions, from public education to the  
12745 Pentagon. In fact, we all know a curriculum that says that  
12746 "the only remedy to past discrimination is present  
12747 discrimination, the only remedy to present discrimination is  
12748 future discrimination," is inherently divisive, and should  
12749 not be in our schools.

12750         And so why are my colleagues interested in funneling  
12751 more money into keeping our classrooms remote? Quite  
12752 simply, because the underlying legislation was written by the  
12753 most liberal wing of the Democratic Party, who supports CRT  
12754 to fundamentally change America, and not for the better.  
12755 Instead of focusing on keeping schools open, Democrats want  
12756 to recklessly spend an additional \$4 billion in giveaways to  
12757 teachers' unions through the Emergency Connectivity Fund to  
12758 keep children at home. This temporary fund for remote  
12759 learning was created in the Democrats' last hyperpartisan  
12760 reconciliation bill at the same time teachers' unions were  
12761 influencing the White House to keep schools closed.

12762         Adding more money to this is the latest example of  
12763 Democrats ruling through fear, and ignoring the risk of  
12764 school closures on children's overall well-being. Pouring

12765 money into keeping children at home and isolated is just as  
12766 bad as teaching them a divisive theory like CRT, and  
12767 indoctrinating impressionable students with the Marxist  
12768 philosophy.

12769         Instead, my friends on the other side of the aisle  
12770 should remember the words of Martin Luther King, Jr., as he  
12771 spoke of his dream for his four little children. He longed  
12772 for the day when all children would live in a nation where  
12773 they will not be judged by the color of their skin, but by  
12774 the content of their character. I believe in that dream, as  
12775 well. CRT would not make his dream come true. Our children  
12776 are our future, and they deserve much better from us.

12777         I urge adoption of my amendment to help our students,  
12778 not teachers' unions, and I yield back.

12779         \*Mr. Welch. Mr. Chairman?

12780         \*The Chairman. Yes, the gentleman from Vermont is  
12781 recognized.

12782         \*Mr. Welch. Well, I always enjoy my colleague from  
12783 Georgia, and you speak well. Unfortunately, I don't know  
12784 what you are talking about, insofar as it relates to my  
12785 amendment.

12786         I mean, essentially, I get it. You don't like critical  
12787 race theory.

12788         The folks in Gilman, Vermont, they are, like, eight-  
12789 year-olds. And they are not going -- they are going to

12790 school, or they want to be in school, and some kids are  
12791 remote, but mostly they are going to school. This is going  
12792 to allow them to get access to the Internet at home. So it  
12793 is going to be them being able to do what it is they do on  
12794 the Internet, their homework. So there is no, like, critical  
12795 race theory here.

12796         The other thing is, you know, that is a discussion to  
12797 have, but is this America's school board? That is my  
12798 question. You know, do we want to talk in here about whether  
12799 QAnon theories are taught or not, or what happened on January  
12800 6th, and we prescribe what the proper teaching is of that?  
12801 We are not the school board. We know that.

12802         What we do know is that your kids in your district, I  
12803 dare to say, and the kids in my district, they need access to  
12804 the Internet. And I bet you would agree with me on this. So  
12805 this is not about funding schools. It is about giving access  
12806 to the Internet for these kids, many of whom are low-income,  
12807 but high aspiration. They really, really, really do believe  
12808 in that beautiful Martin Luther King quote you had.

12809         So let's not head off -- we call it the puckerbrush in  
12810 Vermont. This is simply about providing the opportunity,  
12811 through libraries, to let a kid with parents have access to a  
12812 device and the Internet.

12813         I yield back.

12814         \*Mr. Carter. Mr. Chairman, was that directed at me?

12815 Can I respond?

12816 \*The Chairman. Well, you -- he would have to yield to  
12817 you.

12818 \*Mr. Carter. Would the gentleman yield?

12819 \*The Chairman. Would you yield?

12820 \*Mr. Welch. I have yielded my time back already, thank  
12821 you.

12822 \*The Chairman. You yielded it back? You want to get  
12823 somebody on the Republican side to yield to you?

12824 \*Mr. Carter. Bill, I need some time --

12825 \*The Chairman. Mr. Johnson is recognized for five  
12826 minutes.

12827 \*Mr. Johnson. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to  
12828 strike the last word, and I yield my time to my colleague  
12829 from Georgia.

12830 \*Mr. Carter. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

12831 To my colleague from Vermont, who I have immense respect  
12832 for, and I appreciate your service, you know, I agree with  
12833 you, and I agree with the underlying premise of this bill,  
12834 that we do need to make sure that we have got broadband and  
12835 high-speed Internet available.

12836 Listen, I represent South Georgia, a rural area. We  
12837 have got people who are struggling. The examples that you  
12838 gave about going to a hotspot, those are real-life examples  
12839 in South Georgia, trust me.

12840           And there is a simple solution to getting that money to  
12841   them, and that solution is just make sure that we are not  
12842   teaching CRT within the school systems there. That is the  
12843   simple solution.

12844           Not only that, but, as you well know, and as my  
12845   colleagues on the other side of the aisle know, there has  
12846   been numerous other instances where we have funded broadband  
12847   and high-speed Internet. I mean, there are so many different  
12848   instances where we have put money toward this, \$20.4 billion  
12849   through the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund, 9.6 billion of  
12850   which is in the process of being awarded; 600 million a year  
12851   through the USDA Reconnect program; 1 billion through new  
12852   NTIA tribal broadband program; \$300 million to rural  
12853   broadband program, and on and on and on.

12854           So my point is that I am all in favor of it. Trust me,  
12855   we need it in South Georgia. We need it desperately, and I  
12856   want to make sure it gets there. But I don't want it being  
12857   used to teach CRT.

12858           So the solution is simple, that we just make sure that  
12859   we are not teaching CRT, which I don't think any of us would  
12860   agree with. And I certainly hope my colleagues on the other  
12861   side of the aisle would agree that the only division we  
12862   should be teaching in school is in math, not through CRT.

12863           And I would yield back.

12864           \*The Chairman. The time -- no?



12865           \*Mr. Johnson. I yield back, Mr. --

12866           \*The Chairman. Oh, no, I am sorry, Mr. Johnson had the  
12867 time.

12868           \*Mr. Carter. I am ready to vote. I mean --

12869           \*Mr. Johnson. I yield back.

12870           \*The Chairman. You yield back?

12871           Well, we can vote, but I don't know if anybody else  
12872 wants to say anything. Anybody else? Or we will vote.

12873           \*Mr. McNerney. Mr. Chairman?

12874           \*The Chairman. Mr. McNerney, is your hand up, or that  
12875 is from the previous vote?

12876           \*Mr. McNerney. No, it is up, Frank.

12877           \*The Chairman. You want to be recognized? Okay. Now,  
12878 you know, you are the math whiz, and I saw those division and  
12879 other things behind your bookcase there. All those books on  
12880 math, and gravitation, and everything.

12881           \*Mr. McNerney. Well, thank you, Mr. Chairman, and I  
12882 move to strike the last word.

12883           \*The Chairman. The gentleman is recognized for five  
12884 minutes.

12885           \*Mr. McNerney. Today we are taking the important steps  
12886 to help close the homework gap, providing \$4 billion for the  
12887 Emergency Connectivity Fund. And I thank my good friend from  
12888 Vermont for this amendment. These funds will help students,  
12889 teachers, library patrons to make sure they have Internet

12890 service at home in locations other than the premises of a  
12891 school or a library.

12892 And last year I held a virtual town hall with now-acting  
12893 FCC Chair Rosenworcel and education leaders in my district.  
12894 I heard from parents, students, and teachers, and many  
12895 members of the community, how urgent the need is for distance  
12896 learning. It is critical in my district, especially. We  
12897 have seen a significant demand for Emergency Connectivity  
12898 Funds. And there is more that we need to do to connect to  
12899 all of our students.

12900 So let's not threaten to withhold education funds  
12901 because of this partisan effort to derail resources for  
12902 children's education. It doesn't behoove us, it doesn't  
12903 become us.

12904 I urge my colleagues to support this ANS, and I yield  
12905 back to the chair.

12906 \*Mr. Doyle. Will the gentleman yield? Jerry, Mike  
12907 Doyle. Will the gentleman yield?

12908 \*Mr. McNerney. Yes, I will yield to Mr. Doyle.

12909 \*Mr. Doyle. Yes, you know, this is just another red  
12910 herring. I am sorry, let me put my video on.

12911 I would like to know what school district is teaching  
12912 critical race theory. I don't know of any school district in  
12913 the state of Pennsylvania that is teaching this. We hear all  
12914 this stuff about critical race theory, as if it is being

12915 taught in all the schools across the United States. And they  
12916 did a recent survey of 1,100 teachers from a nonpartisan  
12917 teacher organization. Not a single teacher knew of anywhere  
12918 in their area where this is being taught.

12919       This is just, you know, this is just like the other  
12920 amendment that was done a little earlier tonight. It is a  
12921 gotcha amendment trying to create this hysteria that somehow  
12922 we are indoctrinating kids in school with critical race  
12923 theory, when I don't know of any school in the country that  
12924 is offering it. I would love to see someone list the school  
12925 districts, as we speak today, that are teaching critical race  
12926 theory, because I don't believe there are any. And if there  
12927 are, it is less than I can count on one hand.

12928       So again, you know, enough of this political posturing,  
12929 these red herring amendments that everybody knows is a bunch  
12930 of BS. Let's just vote on the bill that we all agree on, and  
12931 let's dispense with these kinds of amendments. We should  
12932 definitely vote this down.

12933       \*Mr. McNerney. Well, thanks for -- Mr. Doyle. I don't  
12934 even know what critical race theory is. I haven't seen any  
12935 curriculum that explains what it is. This is not a --

12936       [Audio malfunction.]

12937       \*Mr. McNerney. It is not real. But let's get down to  
12938 business and do the work for our nation's children.

12939       I yield back, Mr. Chairman.

12940           \*The Chairman. The gentleman yields back. Anyone --  
12941 the ranking member is recognized for five minutes.

12942           \*Mrs. Rodgers. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and I rise in -  
12943 - going to speak in support of the amendment offered by the  
12944 gentleman from Georgia, Mr. Carter.

12945           I can tell you, in eastern Washington, there is a lot of  
12946 concern around critical race theory. And, as the gentleman  
12947 said, as our -- as parents have seen more directly what is  
12948 being taught in the classrooms, they are raising this  
12949 concern.

12950           And I believe that this is an appropriate debate for us  
12951 to have because, if we all agree that critical race theory  
12952 should not be taught in the classrooms, let's support the  
12953 amendment.

12954           I spoke earlier this morning about the sense that the  
12955 promise of America is slipping away. The idea that everyone,  
12956 no matter their gender, race, religion, or creed, has a  
12957 chance here, in the United States of America, for life,  
12958 liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. And unfortunately,  
12959 critical race theory undermines all of that with fear,  
12960 division, and racism. It is tearing the moral fabric of this  
12961 nation.

12962           When our children walk into the classroom, we want them  
12963 to have the dream of a better life. We want them to have  
12964 hope, to learn truth, to build friendships and trust, to

12965 learn to forgive, treat others with compassion, no matter who  
12966 they are, and appreciate that, yes, America is on a journey  
12967 to a more perfect union for liberty and justice for all.  
12968 That has always been our history. It is what America -- made  
12969 America the beacon of hope for freedom-loving people all over  
12970 the world.

12971         So I know countless parents who agree they do not want  
12972 critical race theory determining what is true for our kids.  
12973 We are battling it in Washington State. It is not a  
12974 curriculum, but it is a political agenda.

12975         So I would ask us to come together around what Dr.  
12976 Martin Luther King dreamed for his children, that one day  
12977 children would live in a nation where they are not judged by  
12978 the color of their skin, but by the content of their  
12979 character. Mr. Carter's amendment can stop this dangerous  
12980 teaching of CRT, and I urge my colleagues to vote for freedom  
12981 and opportunity.

12982         I yield back.

12983         \*Voice. Anybody yelled at me?

12984         \*The Chairman. All right.

12985         \*Mr. Welch. Mr. Chairman?

12986         \*The Chairman. The gentlewoman yields back.

12987         \*Mr. Welch. Mr. Pallone --

12988         \*The Chairman. Mr. Butterfield --

12989         \*Mr. Butterfield. Mr. Chairman?

12990           \*The Chairman. -- recognized for five minutes.

12991           \*Mr. Butterfield. Thank you, thank you -- thank you  
12992 very much, Mr. Chairman.

12993           First let me thank my friend, Mr. Welch, for his  
12994 amendment. And thank you, Peter, for your years of advocacy  
12995 for distance learning and broadband deployment in our  
12996 communities. You know those who live in urban settings,  
12997 where broadband is plentiful, you may not have an  
12998 appreciation for the disadvantages that children in rural  
12999 communities are facing. Broadband is absolutely essential,  
13000 particularly during a pandemic, where children need this type  
13001 of learning.

13002           Now, my friends, this debate has now taken a bad turn.  
13003 It reminds me of the debate that we had on the Next Gen 911  
13004 earlier today, and I urge you, please don't go down this  
13005 path. Critical race theory is not being taught in high  
13006 school or middle school classrooms in my district, it is not  
13007 being taught in Vermont, or Georgia, or Pennsylvania, or  
13008 North Carolina. It is not being taught. This is nothing but  
13009 a red herring. It is a distraction. Please don't go down  
13010 this path, and don't accuse the Democratic Party of promoting  
13011 critical race theory. That is a lie.

13012           The Democratic Party does not promote critical race  
13013 theory in our nation's schools, and this debate is simply  
13014 divisive. So to my friends from Georgia and from the State

13015 of Washington, to invoke the name of Dr. Martin Luther King  
13016 Jr., my goodness, to invoke the name of Dr. King in this  
13017 debate does a disservice to this debate. It does a  
13018 disservice to the legacy of Dr. King. Dr. King advocated  
13019 equal opportunity, and that is exactly what Mr. Welch's  
13020 amendment seeks to accomplish.

13021 Mr. Welch's amendment is very constructive, and it is  
13022 not deserving of this type of distraction. Thank you, Mr.  
13023 Chairman. I yield back.

13024 \*Mr. Tonko. Mr. Chair?

13025 \*Mr. Welch. Mr. Chairman?

13026 \*The Chairman. Did you want to yield to Mr. Tonko, Mr.  
13027 Butterfield?

13028 \*Mr. Tonko. He can just strike the last word to yield  
13029 to Mr. Welch.

13030 \*Mr. Butterfield. Yes, I will yield to my friend from  
13031 New York, Mr. Tonko.

13032 \*The Chairman. Oh, you want to yield to Mr. -- I am  
13033 sorry. You will yield to Mr. Welch, if that is all right.  
13034 He is asking --

13035 \*Mr. Butterfield. I will yield to the gentleman from  
13036 Vermont, yes.

13037 \*The Chairman. Okay.

13038 \*Mr. Welch. All right, just a ironic observation. We  
13039 all can have our views on critical race theory, although I

13040 suspect most of us couldn't tell you what it is. But how is  
13041 it that I end up becoming the conservative, and my friend  
13042 from Georgia is the liberal?

13043 Are we a school board? This amendment that I am  
13044 proposing, literally, has nothing to do with any school in  
13045 any district, in any state in this country. And we are  
13046 talking as though, if this amendment were passed, somehow it  
13047 would be a pipeline for critical race theory in each of our  
13048 schools. Those decisions are going to be debated, as my --  
13049 as the ranking member has mentioned, by school districts.  
13050 Those are tough questions. It is very fraught for a lot of  
13051 parents, as any curriculum issue is.

13052 But I have news for my colleagues. We are not a school  
13053 board. If we were smarter, we might be. But we are not. So  
13054 all this is is about letting a kid in a rural community have  
13055 access to affordable Internet to do what needs to be done  
13056 under the supervision, by and large, of that child's parents.  
13057 Thank you.

13058 \*The Chairman. Butterfield yields back.

13059 \*Mr. Butterfield. Reclaiming my time, I yield back, Mr.  
13060 Chairman.

13061 \*The Chairman. Thank you. Is there a Republican who  
13062 wants to speak on this?

13063 \*Mr. Walberg. Mr. Chairman, I had my hand raised.

13064 \*The Chairman. Mr. Walberg? You are recognized for



13065 five minutes.

13066 \*Mr. Walberg. Thank you, Mr. Chairman -- strike the  
13067 last word.

13068 You know, I don't -- I certainly don't want to get this  
13069 debate going in the wrong direction. And I am sorry if I  
13070 take a different position than some of my colleagues on this,  
13071 but I have listened to a lot of my constituents. I have  
13072 listened to many of them who have joined hundreds of people  
13073 in school districts in my district, speaking to school boards  
13074 about their concern for CRT, 1619 Project, whatever it is  
13075 being taught to their children in schools by certain teachers  
13076 groups using curriculum. That is all I am going on. I might  
13077 not be smart enough to know how it is taking place over the  
13078 United States, but I do know my district.

13079 A Federal law is clear that the Federal Government has  
13080 no business interfering in the curriculum decisions of states  
13081 and school districts. I agree with my good friend from  
13082 Vermont totally on that. But unfortunately, this is exactly  
13083 what the Biden Administration has done.

13084 The Administration, under Secretary of Education Cardona  
13085 -- and I have the privilege of sitting on the Education and  
13086 Labor Committee, and have had a chance to question him, but  
13087 the Administration, under the Secretary, has proposed to use  
13088 Federal grant funds to push a radical, discredited curriculum  
13089 on our nation's schools. And those are my schools, as well.

13090           As Congress we have an obligation to stand up to this  
13091 abuse of authority, and ensure it cannot happen again. This  
13092 amendment will help accomplish that. That is all. We  
13093 certainly agree with the agenda of our good friend from  
13094 Vermont, and support the idea of getting rural broadband out  
13095 there. But some Democrats may respond to this amendment with  
13096 several untruths.

13097           First they will say the Republicans want to whitewash  
13098 history. This is false. We should acknowledge the  
13099 injustices in our nation's past and our ongoing struggle to  
13100 form a more perfect union. Students should learn this  
13101 history. Despite some individuals' false claims, the fight  
13102 over critical race theory is not an effort to ignore our  
13103 past.

13104           Second, some Democrats will argue that the fight over  
13105 critical race theory is a made-up scandal. We have heard  
13106 that already. They might argue that the critical race theory  
13107 isn't being taught in schools at all. This is a false  
13108 argument, from my experience and many others, that relies on  
13109 petty semantics. Curriculum inspired by critical race theory  
13110 is being shoved down our students' throats all over the  
13111 country. We hear about that regularly from parents. When  
13112 students are told that a focus on finding the right answer in  
13113 math is racist, that is critical race theory in action. When  
13114 they are taught that a nation's founding principles are a

13115 tool of white supremacy, that is critical race theory in  
13116 action.

13117 Third, some Democrats might argue that we want to  
13118 silence speech. Again, this is false. Unlike these, we do  
13119 not believe the Federal Government has any business  
13120 interfering in the curriculum decisions of states and school  
13121 districts. That is their purview.

13122 Mr. Chairman, the debate over critical race theory pits  
13123 two different visions of America against each other. Do we  
13124 want to further divide our country into rigid categories  
13125 based on the color of our skin or where we come from?  
13126 Critical race theorists would say yes. Proponents of that  
13127 vision are telling students of color that their race is  
13128 determinative, that they have no hope of a better life  
13129 because their race has consigned them to a particular  
13130 outcome. That is pernicious, a pernicious lie.

13131 But there is an alternative vision. It is the vision  
13132 that we, as Republicans have. We believe that all American  
13133 history should be taught honestly, inclusive, including the  
13134 horrible injustices within that history, and the great  
13135 triumphs.

13136 We believe that progress toward defeating racism and  
13137 discrimination has happened through appeals to our founding  
13138 principles, and not through abandonment of those principles.  
13139 Our founding documents espouse a belief that all people are

13140 created equal. Critical race theorists would argue that  
13141 this principle is a tool of white supremacy.

13142 We believe the principle of equality is the very best  
13143 tool for defeating white supremacy, critical race theory and  
13144 every other ideology that seeks to divide us. That is all we  
13145 are asking.

13146 Putting this as an opportunity to speak out on this  
13147 issue when we have the opportunity of spending money on  
13148 something, I think that is valuable. I urge all my  
13149 colleagues to support this amendment.

13150 \*Mr. Butterfield. Will the gentleman yield for a  
13151 question very quickly?

13152 \*The Chairman. Will Mr. Walberg yield to Mr.  
13153 Butterfield?

13154 \*Mr. Butterfield. It is a very quick one.

13155 \*The Chairman. I guess you are out of time.

13156 You will have to get another person, Mr. Butterfield.  
13157 Who else on the Democratic side wants to --

13158 \*Mr. Veasey. Mr. Chairman?

13159 \*The Chairman. Mr. Veasey?

13160 \*Mr. Veasey. Yes.

13161 \*The Chairman. Did you want time?

13162 \*Mr. Veasey. Yes, I would like time, Mr. Chairman.

13163 \*The Chairman. The gentleman is recognized. Maybe you  
13164 can give some of it to Mr. Butterfield.

13165           \*Mr. Veasey. Mr. Chairman, I would like to yield time  
13166 to Mr. Butterfield of North Carolina.

13167           \*Mr. Butterfield. I just need a few seconds. Thank you  
13168 very much for yielding.

13169           Let me ask Mr. Walberg -- and I was just looking at your  
13170 bio a moment ago, and you are an ordained pastor. And I have  
13171 great respect for the clergy. And you live in Tipton,  
13172 Michigan. Do you know any schools at all in Tipton that  
13173 teach critical race theory? Do you personally know any  
13174 schools in your hometown that do this?

13175           \*Mr. Walberg. No, I don't, not in my home town. But I  
13176 know in my district several schools that have had school  
13177 board meetings flooded by, literally, tens and, ultimately,  
13178 hundreds of parents who are critical of --

13179           \*Mr. Butterfield. Can you name two?

13180           \*Mr. Walberg. I am not going to name them here, but if  
13181 you would like to talk --

13182           \*Mr. Butterfield. Thank you.

13183           \*Mr. Walberg. If you would like to --

13184           \*Mr. Butterfield. Reclaiming my time, Mr. Chair --

13185           \*Mr. Walberg. If you would like to talk with me  
13186 personally, I would be glad to tell you that.

13187           \*Mr. Butterfield. Thank you, Reverend. Thank you.  
13188 Back to you, Mr. Veasey, thank you. Yes.

13189           \*Mr. Veasey. Thank you very much. Thank you very much.

13190           Mr. Chairman. Yes, I will be very brief. Honestly, I  
13191 had never even heard of critical race theory until I heard  
13192 conservatives talking about it on shows. You know, I am a  
13193 Gen-Xer. I am old enough to remember people talking about  
13194 busing as a Gen-Xer. We were the first members of the Fort  
13195 Worth Independent School District to go to integrated  
13196 schools. The Baby Boomers didn't go K through 12 integrated.  
13197 Some of the younger ones went to integration in their high  
13198 school, and maybe the latter part of their junior high year.  
13199 But I didn't go.

13200           We went K through 12 integration, but we were -- we went  
13201 through busing, and I saw that that term used to scare  
13202 people: "We are going to bus your kids across town.'" You  
13203 know, that was -- I thought that was a very tragic time  
13204 period for the United States, because it was a time that we  
13205 should have been trying to come together to learn, and get  
13206 past all of those years of being legally segregated from one  
13207 another.

13208           You know, and there are other loaded terms that were  
13209 that were used. And I think, whether or not we think those  
13210 terms are moral, when trying to scare our neighbors, or scare  
13211 people all around the issue of race, you know, I think that  
13212 that debate is going to continue to be had. We saw it in  
13213 Willie Horton commercials, we have seen it in all sorts of  
13214 things. But I just don't think that it belongs here.

13215           It is going to be up -- it is going to -- the conscience  
13216 of political consultants are going to decide what they think  
13217 is good or bad for the course of this country, and what is  
13218 going to be used to try to scare voters during campaigns, but  
13219 it just doesn't belong here.

13220           When you look at broadband, and what this amendment is  
13221 trying to do, regardless of what your race is, regardless of  
13222 where you happen to live, we ought to be trying to get people  
13223 connected. And that is exactly the point of this amendment.

13224           I saw a lot of our school kids of all races and all  
13225 incomes suffer by not being able to go to school, and  
13226 particularly lower-income kids, by not having access to the  
13227 Internet. And we ought to try to work on those sorts of  
13228 things together, and not use this as an opportunity to try to  
13229 scare Ward and June Cleaver, or to try to scare Donna Reed,  
13230 or the Bradys, or whomever we are trying to move for  
13231 midterms. It just doesn't belong in this debate.

13232           And with that, Mr. Chairman, I yield back, and I support  
13233 this --

13234           \*Mr. Doyle. Will the gentleman yield? Marc, will you  
13235 yield, please?

13236           \*Mr. Veasey. I will yield time to the gentleman from  
13237 Pennsylvania.

13238           \*Mr. Doyle. Thank you. You are right. This is an  
13239 amendment that doesn't belong in this bill, and I would defy

13240 any member of this committee to identify one school district  
13241 that is teaching critical race theory. I think what people  
13242 are seeing is what I saw on the news in Pennsylvania, where  
13243 parents are being ginned up by right-wing Internet sites, and  
13244 by right-wing media, that somehow this critical race theory  
13245 is just spreading through the whole country, and they are  
13246 flooding school boards, and attacking members of school  
13247 boards, and the school board members don't even know what  
13248 they are talking about.

13249         There is no such thing going on in the school, and I  
13250 have seen news story after news story around the Pittsburgh  
13251 area of school board members constantly telling parents that  
13252 there is no such thing taking place in their school district.  
13253 But these parents have all been ginned up, because they have  
13254 seen this on the Internet, or they have heard this on some of  
13255 the television shows that they are watching.

13256         This is a complete red herring. And to equate this  
13257 somehow with Democrats are for critical race theory and  
13258 Republicans are for mom and apple pie and the American flag  
13259 is just another -- just stop this, okay? And it is so  
13260 political, and it is so awful --

13261         [Audio malfunction.]

13262         \*Mr. Doyle. -- to do, and it has nothing to do with  
13263 this amendment. So let's get back to, you know, voting on  
13264 the --



13265           \*The Chairman. All right, all right. Time has expired.

13266           \*Mr. Doyle. And I yield back to you, Marc --

13267           \*The Chairman. Mr. -- thank you.

13268           \*Mr. Veasey. Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

13269           \*The Chairman. Is Mr. Palmer, next?

13270           \*Voice. I think Crenshaw is more senior than Palmer,  
13271 but let me check.

13272           \*The Chairman. Mr. Crenshaw, did you want to speak on  
13273 this?

13274           \*Voice. No, Palmer is more senior.

13275           \*The Chairman. Oh, Palmer?

13276           \*Mr. Crenshaw. Yes.

13277           \*The Chairman. Okay, Mr. Palmer. We will start with  
13278 Mr. Palmer.

13279           \*Mr. Crenshaw. Yes, I do.

13280           \*The Chairman. Mr. Palmer --

13281           \*Mr. Crenshaw. I guess not.

13282           \*The Chairman. -- is recognized for five minutes.

13283           \*Mr. Palmer. I move to strike the last word.

13284           [Pause.]

13285           \*Mr. Palmer. Mr. Chairman?

13286           \*The Chairman. Yes, Mr. Palmer is recognized.

13287           \*Mr. Palmer. Thank you. It is -- a couple of different  
13288 colleagues have asked to give an example of where critical  
13289 race theory is being taught. There are seven school

13290 districts in Wisconsin teaching it, and this is what I found  
13291 in just the few minutes that I have had to look it up:  
13292 Manhattan Institute reported that 30 public school districts  
13293 in 15 states are teaching it, and I think it should be noted  
13294 that the National Education Association passed a resolution  
13295 endorsing the teaching of critical race theory in their  
13296 meeting this summer.

13297         With that I yield back.

13298         [Applause.]

13299         \*Mr. Palmer. And obviously, there is at least one  
13300 Democrat here who endorses it.

13301         So with that, I yield back.

13302         \*Mr. Carter. Who? I yield to the gentleman from  
13303 Georgia.

13304         \*Mr. Butterfield. Who?

13305         \*Mr. Carter. Mr. Chairman, excuse me, to -- and with  
13306 all due respect to my colleagues on the other side of the  
13307 aisle who say this is not necessary, that this is not being  
13308 done, if I could just point out that last week the United  
13309 States -- at the United States Conference of Mayors, a  
13310 resolution that was sponsored by Lori Lightfoot from Chicago,  
13311 Illinois; Lauren McLane from Boise, Idaho; Greg Fischer from  
13312 Lewisville, Kentucky; and Ted Wheeler from Portland, Oregon  
13313 was adopted in support of critical race theory in public K  
13314 through 12 education.

13315 [Applause.]

13316 \*Mr. Carter. So -- Mr. Chairman, is that really  
13317 necessary?

13318 \*The Chairman. It is necessary.

13319 \*Mr. Carter. Okay. My point is it is being taught, and  
13320 it is something that we need to take the opportunity, as Mr.  
13321 Walberg has pointed out, to stop it right now. We need to  
13322 take a stand and say, no, we don't want this. This isn't  
13323 what we are. Whether you are Democrat or Republican, this  
13324 doesn't represent what we want, and what we are. And this is  
13325 our opportunity to do that.

13326 If it is not being taught, as has been suggested by  
13327 those on the other side of the aisle, then what harm is it  
13328 going to do?

13329 The only thing it is going to do is to give relief to  
13330 those extremists, as they would describe, who are spreading  
13331 these right-wing theories. We can end that right now. That  
13332 is why the amendment, I hope, will pass and, I hope, will be  
13333 supported by those on the other side of the aisle.

13334 And I will yield back to the gentleman from Alabama.

13335 \*Mr. Palmer. I thank --

13336 \*The Chairman. All right, who else wants to --

13337 \*Mr. Palmer. Well, I --

13338 \*The Chairman. Oh, Mr. Palmer.

13339 \*Mr. Palmer. Yes, my time is --

13340           \*The Chairman. Your time.

13341           \*Mr. Palmer. My whole point here was -- and I am a big  
13342 supporter of broadband, having grown up in rural Alabama, but  
13343 my point here is there are members of this committee saying  
13344 that critical race theory is not being taught anywhere. They  
13345 ask that we name places where it is being taught, and I think  
13346 I just proved that it is being taught.

13347           And I just -- I think I also proved that the nation's  
13348 largest teacher union endorses teaching critical race theory.

13349           And I will add this. I had the opportunity to be on the  
13350 football team at the University of Alabama under coach Bear  
13351 Bryant. People introduce me as having played there. I  
13352 correct the record to say that I practiced there. But I can  
13353 assure you that there were players on the team that didn't  
13354 like each other, but it had absolutely nothing to do with  
13355 their race. And when we went out on that field, we went out  
13356 as one. And as a nation, this is the last thing we need, is  
13357 something that will divide us as intensely as this will  
13358 divide us.

13359           So I appeal to all of the members of this committee, and  
13360 our colleagues in the rest of Congress, to find a way to come  
13361 together and be united for the good of the future of this  
13362 nation.

13363           And I yield back.

13364           \*The Chairman. All right. Anyone else want to address

13365 this?

13366 \*Ms. Kelly. Mr. Chairman? Mr. Chairman?

13367 \*The Chairman. Ms. Kelly is recognized for five  
13368 minutes.

13369 \*Ms. Kelly. I won't be that long. You know, I have a  
13370 very, very good relationship with the mayor of Chicago. So I  
13371 just asked her about what was just read, and she said no,  
13372 that was not even on the agenda. So I don't know what paper  
13373 you are reading from. And she -- and I can't even repeat  
13374 some of the stuff she is saying, but she said no, it wasn't  
13375 even on the agenda, and that is not true. So thank you.

13376 I yield back.

13377 \*The Chairman. All right. Anyone else on this  
13378 amendment, on the Carter amendment?

13379 \*Mr. Crenshaw. Mr. Chairman?

13380 \*The Chairman. Oh, Mr. Crenshaw is recognized for five  
13381 minutes.

13382 \*Mr. Crenshaw. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I strike the  
13383 last word.

13384 I have just got to address directly some of the things  
13385 my colleagues have been saying. I mean, I know it is  
13386 infuriating when we just repeat what the left says, and then  
13387 you guys say, no, we never said that, except that, you know,  
13388 it is kind of part of the mainstream philosophy of the left  
13389 these days, critical race theory, as much as you would like

13390 to deny it.

13391           And then there is this other thought out there, that it  
13392 just doesn't exist, it is not being taught anywhere. We  
13393 don't know what you are talking about. Okay, I am actually  
13394 going to take that point pretty seriously, because I am  
13395 willing to believe that a lot of people are just out of touch  
13396 and don't pay attention to these things.

13397           Look, I mean, when I grew up, I never heard about it,  
13398 either. So I may actually see where you are coming from on  
13399 this. So -- but luckily, I have Google as we debate this,  
13400 and it is really easy to find examples.

13401           So Texas Tribune reported -- this is just a couple --  
13402 this is all recent stuff, just a couple of weeks ago. So  
13403 this is the title of this article: "I Wanted to Teach  
13404 Differently Than I Had Been Taught: How Some Texas Educators  
13405 Practice Anti-Racist Teaching. Conservative lawmakers  
13406 denounce critical race theory and say it facilitates racism,  
13407 but some teachers say it actually informs their efforts to  
13408 counter racism in the curriculum and classroom, even though  
13409 they don't teach it directly to students.'" That is an  
13410 important point I am going to get to in a second.

13411           But we were talking about Pennsylvania just a second  
13412 ago. This is a recent one, too. "In Allegheny County in  
13413 Pennsylvania, a councilwoman introduced a resolution asking  
13414 all local school districts to teach critical race theory.'"

13415 But hey, all those parents who were complaining at school  
13416 board meetings, yes, they don't know what they are talking  
13417 about, right? They are just bunch of right-wing, redneck  
13418 rubes who don't understand anything, and follow me on social  
13419 media, so they are just getting lied to, right?

13420 Come on, people. Take these parents seriously. There  
13421 is hundreds -- there is thousands of them throughout the  
13422 country. And if you are paying attention, you are seeing  
13423 these videos get more and more traction. And you know what  
13424 some of the most amazing ones are? They are from Black  
13425 parents, because Black parents don't want their Black child  
13426 being taught that they are disadvantaged automatically  
13427 because of their skin color, or that they should see White  
13428 people as an enemy.

13429 And here -- now, I have to say this honestly to you  
13430 guys. They are not teaching a class called critical race  
13431 theory in middle school or a high school. I get that. But  
13432 those theories infuse directly their teachings. And whether  
13433 that teaching is called diversity and inclusion, or it is  
13434 given some nice name, it is infused with the toxic teachings  
13435 of critical race theory.

13436 And I got to say this, too. Critical race theory is a  
13437 direct affront to liberalism. And it seems conservatives  
13438 will be the ones who defends traditional liberalism. I am  
13439 sure a lot of my colleagues would identify as liberals. Let

13440 me read to you, if you just Google, the first thing that  
13441 comes up about critical race theory, the definition. It is a  
13442 body of legal scholarship, et cetera. Here is where it gets  
13443 interesting. "Seeks to critically examine the intersection  
13444 of race and U.S. law, and to challenge mainstream American  
13445 liberal approaches to racial justice.'" This is from New  
13446 York University Press. It is called Critical Race Theory, an  
13447 Introduction, 3rd Edition by Rachel Delgado and Jean  
13448 Stefanovic.

13449         It says, "Unlike traditional civil rights discourse,  
13450 which stresses incrementalism and step by step progress,  
13451 critical race theory questions the very foundations of the  
13452 liberal order, including equality theory, legal reasoning,  
13453 enlightenment, rationalism, and neutral principles of  
13454 constitutional law.'" It is challenging liberal principles  
13455 like the neutral application of law. It is challenging these  
13456 things because it is, in fact, a racist ideology that  
13457 believes you should treat people differently based on their  
13458 skin color.

13459         So I am glad that everybody here says that they are  
13460 against it. But then why not just vote for these amendments,  
13461 so that we can actually say we are against it together, so  
13462 that we can actually lock arms and stand together against  
13463 racist policies?

13464         You say it has no place in this amendment, in this



13465 policy discussion. Well, you know what? Then maybe, from  
13466 the beginning, work with Republicans along the whole \$3.5  
13467 trillion dollar bill. I mean, that is what I would say to  
13468 that.

13469         This stuff is important. It is important to our  
13470 culture, it is important to thousands of parents across the  
13471 country. And the dismissal, the sneering, condescending  
13472 dismissal of those parents' concerns is really abysmal,  
13473 because those parents are bringing actual examples of  
13474 curriculum, bringing actual examples of curriculum to those  
13475 school board meetings. We need to watch those videos and  
13476 actually listen.

13477         Mr. Chairman, I yield back.

13478         \*The Chairman. All right. Anyone else on this topic?  
13479 Yes, Mr. Joyce is recognized for five minutes.

13480         \*Mr. Joyce. Mr. Chairman, I strike to move the last  
13481 word (sic).

13482         \*The Chairman. The gentleman is recognized.

13483         \*Mr. Joyce. Mr. Chairman, I too am an advocate for  
13484 expanding connectivity for all students, especially students  
13485 that I represent in rural areas. But it is essential that  
13486 our children return to the classroom to learn in an  
13487 environment that teaches them what is great about our  
13488 country, and what makes the United States an exceptional  
13489 place to live, not a mix of half truths about our founding

13490 fathers.

13491 What message do we want children to learn in school?

13492 We must teach our children to fight against intolerance, and  
13493 we must teach them to have an understanding to be critical  
13494 lifelong thinkers?

13495 Telling our students what to believe, which is what  
13496 occurs with CRT, does nothing for their intellectual  
13497 development. Critical race theory does not accomplish our  
13498 goals, and it doesn't educate our students, and it simply has  
13499 no place in our classrooms.

13500 Thank you, and I yield back my time.

13501 I yield to Mr. Hudson.

13502 \*Mr. Carter. Carter.

13503 \*The Chairman. Mr. Carter? Are you yielding to Mr.  
13504 Carter?

13505 \*Mr. Joyce. Yes, I would like to yield to Mr. Carter.

13506 \*The Chairman. Mr. Carter?

13507 \*Mr. Carter. Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent to  
13508 add to the record resolution no. 68 from the 89th annual  
13509 meeting of the United States Conference of Mayors, adopted  
13510 resolution in support of critical race theory in public K  
13511 through 12 education.

13512 \*The Chairman. Mr. Carter, you got to show me that  
13513 first.

13514 \*Mr. Carter. Coming to you.

13515           \*The Chairman. And then we will go back to it. Let me  
13516 look at it while we proceed here. Thank you.

13517           Mr. Joyce, would you want to continue?

13518           \*Mr. Joyce. I am willing to yield.

13519           \*Mr. Carter. No, I will yield back.

13520           \*Mr. Joyce. Does anyone need additional time?

13521           \*Mr. Carter. I will yield back.

13522           \*Mr. Joyce. Does anyone need additional time?

13523           I yield back, Mr. Chairman.

13524           \*The Chairman. Thank you. All right. We are fine with  
13525 this. I would ask unanimous consent to include in the record  
13526 this document from U.S. Conference of Mayors 89th Annual  
13527 Meeting, 2021 adopted resolutions.

13528           Without objection --

13529           \*Mr. Rush. Mr. Chairman?

13530           \*The Chairman. -- so ordered.

13531           [The information follows:]

13532

13533           \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

13534

13535           \*The Chairman. Yes. Would you like to speak for five  
13536 minutes? You are recognized, Mr. Rush.

13537           \*Mr. Rush. I want to speak on unanimous consent. I  
13538 would like to hear more about the contents of that document  
13539 that you are entering into the record. I would like for the  
13540 clerk to read it.

13541           \*The Chairman. This resolution that was just put in the  
13542 record?

13543           \*Mr. Rush. I like that document -- I would like to hear  
13544 the clerk read it, so I know what is in it before I agree to  
13545 unanimous --

13546           \*Voice. I think he was objecting to the unanimous --

13547           \*Mr. Butterfield. A point of order --

13548           \*The Chairman. Did you object?

13549           \*Mr. Butterfield. A point of order, Mr. Chairman, a  
13550 point of order.

13551           Can the chair just receive it into the record without  
13552 unanimous consent?

13553           \*The Chairman. No. But Mr. Rush, this is from the U.S.  
13554 Conference of Mayors. It is a resolution --

13555           \*Mr. Rush. Mr. Chairman, I reserve the right to know  
13556 what is in this --

13557           \*The Chairman. All right, why don't we just -- before  
13558 you object, can we just send it to your staff, and you look  
13559 at it? All right?

13560           \*Mr. Rush.   Okay.   That would be --

13561           \*The Chairman.   All right.   And before the end of the  
13562 night, we will get back to you.   We will send it to you, all  
13563 right?

13564           But it is a document from U.S. Conference of Mayors.  
13565 You take a look at it, and then we will come back.

13566           All right.   What is -- is that all you wanted to ask  
13567 about?   Did you yield back?

13568           \*Voice.   Yes, I think he was objecting.   I don't --

13569           \*The Chairman.   Okay, you were just objecting.   But  
13570 rather than object, you look at it and then we will deal with  
13571 it later.

13572           Anybody else want to speak on this?

13573           All right, so we are on Mr. Carter's amendment.   You  
13574 want to have a roll call, or you don't care?

13575           \*Mrs. Rodgers.   Yes --

13576           \*The Chairman.   Roll call?   All right.   All right, a  
13577 recorded vote is ordered on the Carter amendment.   Those in  
13578 favor of the amendment will say aye, those opposed to the  
13579 amendment will say no, and the clerk shall call the roll.

13580           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Rush?

13581           \*Mr. Rush.   As the son -- in the U.S., and the -- city  
13582 council that has a -- Rush votes resoundingly no.

13583           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Rush votes no.

13584           Ms. Eshoo?

13585           \*Ms. Eshoo.   Eshoo of California votes no.  
13586           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Eshoo votes no.  
13587           Ms. DeGette?  
13588           \*Ms. DeGette.   DeGette votes no.  
13589           \*The Clerk.   Ms. DeGette votes no.  
13590           Mr. Doyle?  
13591           \*Mr. Doyle.   Doyle votes no.  
13592           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Doyle votes no.  
13593           Ms. Schakowsky?  
13594           [No response.]  
13595           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Schakowsky?  
13596           \*Ms. Schakowsky.   No.  
13597           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Schakowsky votes no.  
13598           Mr. Butterfield?  
13599           \*Mr. Butterfield.   Mr. Butterfield of North Carolina has  
13600   read the bipartisan resolution from the U.S. Conference of  
13601   Mayors, and votes no.  
13602           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Butterfield votes no.  
13603           Ms. Matsui?  
13604           \*Ms. Matsui.   Matsui votes no.  
13605           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Matsui votes no.  
13606           Ms. Castor?  
13607           \*Ms. Castor.   Castor votes no.  
13608           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Castor votes no.  
13609           Mr. Sarbanes?

13610 \*Mr. Sarbanes. Sarbanes votes no.  
13611 \*The Clerk. Mr. Sarbanes votes no.  
13612 Mr. McNerney?  
13613 \*Mr. McNerney. McNerney of California, no.  
13614 \*The Clerk. Mr. McNerney votes no.  
13615 Mr. Welch?  
13616 \*Mr. Welch. No.  
13617 \*The Clerk. Mr. Welch votes no.  
13618 Mr. Tonko?  
13619 \*Mr. Tonko. Tonko from New York votes no.  
13620 \*The Clerk. Mr. Tonko votes no.  
13621 Ms. Clarke?  
13622 \*Ms. Clarke. Clarke from New York votes no.  
13623 \*The Clerk. Ms. Clarke votes no.  
13624 Mr. Schrader?  
13625 \*Mr. Schrader. Mr. Schrader from Oregon votes no.  
13626 \*The Clerk. Mr. Schrader votes no.  
13627 Mr. Cardenas?  
13628 \*Mr. Cardenas. Cardenas, representing California, votes  
13629 no.  
13630 \*The Clerk. Mr. Cardenas votes no.  
13631 Mr. Ruiz?  
13632 \*Mr. Ruiz. Ruiz from California votes no.  
13633 \*The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz votes no.  
13634 Mr. Peters?

13635           \*Mr. Peters.   Votes no.  
13636           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Peters votes no.  
13637           Mrs. Dingell?  
13638           \*Mrs. Dingell.   No.  
13639           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Dingell votes no.  
13640           Mr. Veasey?  
13641           \*Mr. Veasey.   Veasey votes no.  
13642           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Veasey votes no.  
13643           Ms. Kuster?  
13644           \*Ms. Kuster.   Kuster votes no.  
13645           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Kuster votes no.  
13646           Ms. Kelly?  
13647           \*Ms. Kelly.   Kelly from Illinois, Chicago, absolutely  
13648   not, no.  
13649           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Kelly votes no.  
13650           Ms. Barragan?  
13651           \*Ms. Barragan.   Barragan votes no.  
13652           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Barragan votes no.  
13653           Mr. McEachin?  
13654           \*Mr. McEachin.   McEachin of Virginia votes no.  
13655           \*The Clerk.   Mr. McEachin votes no.  
13656           Ms. Blunt Rochester?  
13657           \*Ms. Blunt Rochester.   Blunt Rochester of Delaware votes  
13658   no.  
13659           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Blunt Rochester votes no.



13660 Mr. Soto?

13661 \*Mr. Soto. Soto from Florida votes no.

13662 \*The Clerk. Mr. Soto votes no.

13663 Mr. O'Halleran?

13664 \*Mr. O'Halleran. O'Halleran votes no.

13665 \*The Clerk. Mr. O'Halleran votes no.

13666 Miss Rice?

13667 \*Miss Rice. [Inaudible.]

13668 \*The Clerk. Miss Rice votes no.

13669 Ms. Craig?

13670 \*Ms. Craig. Craig votes no.

13671 \*The Clerk. Ms. Craig votes no.

13672 Ms. Schrier?

13673 \*Ms. Schrier. Schrier votes no.

13674 \*The Clerk. Ms. Schrier, could you repeat your vote?

13675 \*Ms. Schrier. Schrier votes no.

13676 [Pause.]

13677 \*Ms. Schrier. Schrier votes no.

13678 \*The Clerk. Schrier votes no.

13679 Mrs. Trahan?

13680 \*Mrs. Trahan. Trahan votes no.

13681 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan votes no.

13682 Mrs. Fletcher?

13683 \*Mrs. Fletcher. Fletcher votes no.

13684 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher votes no.

13685 Mrs. Rodgers?  
13686 \*Mrs. Rodgers. [Inaudible.]  
13687 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Rodgers votes aye.  
13688 Mr. Upton?  
13689 [No response.]  
13690 \*The Clerk. Mr. Burgess?  
13691 \*Mr. Burgess. Votes aye.  
13692 \*The Clerk. Mr. Burgess votes aye.  
13693 Mr. Scalise?  
13694 \*Mr. Scalise. Scalise votes aye.  
13695 \*The Clerk. Mr. Scalise votes aye.  
13696 Mr. Latta?  
13697 \*Mr. Latta. Latta votes aye.  
13698 \*The Clerk. Mr. Latta votes aye.  
13699 Mr. Guthrie?  
13700 \*Mr. Guthrie. Guthrie votes aye.  
13701 \*The Clerk. Mr. Guthrie votes aye.  
13702 Mr. McKinley?  
13703 \*Mr. McKinley. [Inaudible.]  
13704 \*The Clerk. Mr. McKinley votes aye.  
13705 Mr. Kinzinger?  
13706 [No response.]  
13707 \*The Clerk. Mr. Griffith?  
13708 \*Mr. Griffith. [Inaudible.]  
13709 \*The Clerk. Mr. Griffith votes aye.

13710 Mr. Bilirakis?

13711 \*Mr. Bilirakis. Bilirakis votes aye.

13712 \*The Clerk. Mr. Bilirakis votes aye.

13713 Mr. Johnson?

13714 \*Mr. Johnson. Johnson votes aye.

13715 \*The Clerk. Mr. Johnson votes aye.

13716 Mr. Long?

13717 [No response.]

13718 \*The Clerk. Mr. Bucshon?

13719 \*Mr. Bucshon. Bucshon from Indiana votes aye.

13720 \*The Clerk. Mr. Bucshon votes aye.

13721 Mr. Mullin?

13722 \*Mr. Mullin. Aye.

13723 \*The Clerk. Mr. Mullin votes aye.

13724 Mr. Hudson?

13725 \*Mr. Hudson. Hudson of North Carolina votes aye.

13726 \*The Clerk. Mr. Hudson votes aye.

13727 Mr. Walberg?

13728 \*Mr. Walberg. Walberg from Michigan votes aye.

13729 \*The Clerk. Mr. Walberg votes aye.

13730 Mr. Carter?

13731 \*Mr. Carter. Carter from Georgia votes aye.

13732 \*The Clerk. Mr. Carter votes aye.

13733 Mr. Duncan?

13734 \*Mr. Duncan. Mr. Duncan votes aye.

13735           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Duncan votes aye.  
13736           Mr. Palmer?  
13737           \*Mr. Palmer.   Palmer votes aye.  
13738           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Palmer votes aye.  
13739           Mr. Dunn?  
13740           \*Mr. Dunn.   Mr. Dunn of Florida votes aye.  
13741           [Pause.]  
13742           \*Mr. Dunn.   Mr. Dunn of Florida votes aye.  
13743           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Dunn votes aye.  
13744           Mr. Curtis?  
13745           \*Mr. Curtis.   Curtis votes aye.  
13746           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Curtis votes aye.  
13747           Mrs. Lesko?  
13748           \*Mrs. Lesko.   Lesko votes aye.  
13749           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Lesko votes aye.  
13750           Mr. Pence?  
13751           \*Mr. Pence.   Pence votes aye.  
13752           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Pence votes aye.  
13753           Mr. Crenshaw?  
13754           \*Mr. Crenshaw.   Crenshaw votes aye.  
13755           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Crenshaw votes aye.  
13756           Mr. Joyce?  
13757           \*Mr. Joyce.   Mr. Joyce of Pennsylvania votes aye.  
13758           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Joyce votes aye.  
13759           Mr. Armstrong?

13760           \*Mr. Armstrong.   Armstrong votes yes.

13761           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Armstrong votes aye.

13762           Mr. Pallone?

13763           \*The Chairman.   Pallone from New Jersey votes no.

13764           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Pallone votes no.

13765           \*The Chairman.   Anyone who hasn't been recorded, who

13766   wants to be?

13767           Mr. Upton, we -- it sounded like he was there, but I

13768   couldn't hear it.   You didn't record him.

13769           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Upton is not --

13770           \*The Chairman.   Are you there, Fred?

13771           [No response.]

13772           \*The Chairman.   Fred?

13773           All right, anyone else?   Otherwise, we are going to

13774   close it out.

13775           The clerk will report the tally.

13776           \*The Clerk.   On that vote --

13777           \*The Chairman.   I thought I heard Fred, but --

13778           \*The Clerk.   -- the yeas were 23 --

13779           \*The Chairman.   He didn't say --

13780           \*The Clerk.   -- and the nays were 32.

13781           \*The Chairman.   Would you repeat that again?

13782           \*The Clerk.   On that vote the yeas were 23 and the nays

13783   were 32.

13784           \*The Chairman.   All right.   So on the Carter amendment

13785 the vote is 23 ayes to 32 noes, and the amendment is not  
13786 agreed to.

13787 Are there any further amendments to the ANS?

13788 \*Mr. Walberg. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the  
13789 desk.

13790 \*Voice. Mr. Walberg.

13791 \*The Chairman. Mr. --

13792 \*Voice. Walberg.

13793 \*The Chairman. Mr. Walberg is -- what is the amendment  
13794 labeled?

13795 \*Mr. Walberg. It is titled CT\_21.

13796 \*The Chairman. Does the clerk have the Walberg  
13797 amendment?

13798 \*The Clerk. Yes, sir.

13799 \*The Chairman. All right. The clerk will report the  
13800 amendment.

13801 \*The Clerk. Amendment to Subtitle M, offered by Mr.  
13802 Walberg of Michigan. Strike Subtitle M --

13803 \*The Chairman. Without objection, the reading of the  
13804 Walberg amendment will be dispensed with.

13805 [The amendment of Mr. Walberg follows:]

13806

13807 \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

13808

13809           \*The Chairman. And the gentleman from Michigan is  
13810 recognized for five minutes.

13811           \*Mr. Walberg. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Earlier this  
13812 year, Congress passed the partisan \$2 trillion package that  
13813 appropriated over \$7 billion --

13814           \*Voice. How far is your --

13815           \*Voice. A mile --

13816           \*The Chairman. I am sorry, and have the members not  
13817 speak while Mr. Walberg is speaking, please?

13818           The gentleman is recognized, the gentleman from  
13819 Michigan.

13820           \*Mr. Walberg. A \$2 trillion package that appropriated  
13821 over \$7 billion for distance learning --

13822           \*Voice. -- can do it --

13823           \*Mr. Walberg. -- connected while schools -- Mr.  
13824 Chairman, it is tough to talk when the mikes are still on.

13825           \*The Chairman. Mr. McKinley is having a problem with  
13826 his hearing.

13827           \*Mr. Walberg. Could I have some seconds back?

13828           \*The Chairman. Yes. All right, we are okay. You can  
13829 start again at five minutes. You have five minutes, Mr.  
13830 Walberg.

13831           \*Mr. Walberg. Well, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I  
13832 appreciate that.

13833           Earlier this year Congress passed the partisan \$2

13834 trillion package that appropriated over \$7 billion for  
13835 distance learning to keep kids connected, while schools were  
13836 closed as a result of COVID-19. Now the Democrats want to  
13837 continue their reckless tax-and-spending spree, by giving  
13838 more money to keep schools closed.

13839         Mr. Chairman, we need to be reopening our schools,  
13840 instead of paying off teachers unions and putting our  
13841 children further behind in their education with distance  
13842 learning. Today this committee is proposing to spend another  
13843 \$4 billion to keep our children at home, instead of listening  
13844 to the science that says it is safe to reopen schools.

13845         I would like to hold up an article, in fact, in a recent  
13846 news report that detail email exchanges that show the Biden-  
13847 Harris Administration and the CDC were pressured into  
13848 adopting a stricter mask guideline after being threatened by  
13849 teachers unions. Mr. Chairman, I ask unanimous consent to  
13850 enter this document into the record.

13851         \*The Chairman. What is it, again, the document?

13852         \*Mr. Walberg. It is a document from the National  
13853 Review.

13854         \*The Chairman. I think we have got to look at it, if  
13855 you don't mind. Can you send it to us?

13856         \*Mr. Walberg. No problem with that. It should be  
13857 delivered to your desk.

13858         \*The Chairman. All right, we will look at it, and then



13859 we will get back to you.

13860 \*Mr. Walberg. This is --

13861 \*The Chairman. Do you want to continue?

13862 \*Mr. Walberg. -- unacceptable for our children. It is  
13863 an unacceptable way to make policy. This reckless spending,  
13864 when most of the \$2 trillion from the last spending package  
13865 has not yet been spent.

13866 In fact, the FCC still has not spent all \$7 billion  
13867 Congress gave them for this program in February. But here we  
13868 are, about to give them even more money for distance  
13869 learning. And what for? For Zoom classes, for a giveaway  
13870 to teachers unions and their cronies that want to stay locked  
13871 down forever?

13872 I remind my colleagues that this fund was specifically  
13873 established for COVID response, not for eternity.

13874 The text of this subtitle says the money can be used --  
13875 and I quote -- "regardless of whether those costs are  
13876 incurred during a COVID 19 emergency period.'" So that means  
13877 that --

13878 [Audio malfunction.]

13879 \*Mr. Walberg. Maybe we should hold a hearing -- from  
13880 FCC commissioners and stakeholders, and then mark up this  
13881 program through regular order, instead of jamming it through  
13882 a \$3.5 billion budget resolution.

13883 Mr. Chairman, we all know what happens when Congress

13884 creates new government funding programs. They grow and grow,  
13885 adding to our already enormous bureaucracy, even when they  
13886 become entirely unnecessary and wasteful. Such is the fate  
13887 of this program under this bill.

13888 We owe it to our children not to mortgage their future  
13889 on an \$11 billion program that will further starve them of a  
13890 valuable in-classroom education. Instead of reopening  
13891 schools, this spending will only accelerate the Biden  
13892 inflation, crushing our economy and jobs.

13893 Consumer prices have hit an all-time high. Inflation is  
13894 up over five percent. And instead of working with  
13895 Republicans to close the digital divide, Democrats are  
13896 doubling down on more spending that will tax the middle class  
13897 with job-crushing inflation.

13898 It is critical that we put our children first, and I  
13899 urge my colleagues to join me in that effort, and support my  
13900 amendment to get the kids back to school.

13901 Thank you.

13902 \*Voice. Kids back to school? My kids are back in  
13903 school.

13904 \*The Chairman. The gentleman yields. Mr. Welch would  
13905 like to speak on the Walberg amendment. The gentleman is  
13906 recognized for five minutes.

13907 \*Mr. Welch. Yes, I tried to listen carefully to the  
13908 arguments, and there is one argument that we shouldn't spend

13909 the money, even though 40 percent of kids who come from  
13910 families whose income is below \$30,000 have no access to  
13911 Internet at all. And we can each make a decision. I think  
13912 we should spend the money. I think there is nothing better  
13913 we can spend the money on than to give your kids the tool  
13914 they need in order to have a chance to make it on their own  
13915 and be a responsible and contributing citizen. So we just --  
13916 Mr. Walberg and I disagree on that.

13917         Second, he said this is a giveaway to teacher unions.  
13918 There is no teacher unions here. You can say things that  
13919 provoke people, but have them bear some, like, passing  
13920 glancing relationship to the truth. There is nothing in this  
13921 legislation at all about teacher unions.

13922         Number three, there is an argument that this is about  
13923 distance learning, and you want kids to be at home -- not to  
13924 be at home, learning. But you want to know something? When  
13925 you are doing homework at night, I think it is great they are  
13926 at home. It is a nice place to be for a 10-year-old, with  
13927 his mother, with her father. I think that is great.

13928         And in fact, a lot of kids aren't at home, because they  
13929 are cruising around with their parents, looking for a place  
13930 where they can get a hotspot and get Internet. And  
13931 seriously, Mr. Walberg, what is so great about kids not being  
13932 home at night with their parents? Tell me what is so great  
13933 about that.

13934           And then, I mean, I don't know what you are talking  
13935 about with inflation. I mean, inflation can be an issue, we  
13936 can have that debate.

13937           But this is about a family whose income is less than  
13938 \$30,000 a year. And that is a family, by the way, where that  
13939 income is 30,000 and they are working really hard. Pretty  
13940 low wages, but they are proud and hardworking folks. They  
13941 are parents who want their kids to work hard and have a  
13942 chance to succeed. And they are in a real poor community,  
13943 like Gilman, Vermont. But they are very proud, and they need  
13944 some help because Internet is expensive, and it goes through  
13945 a local institution, the library, and the library hooks them  
13946 up with the Internet so they can be home, where I think it is  
13947 really great they are at night.

13948           So you have got an amendment, but you have got arguments  
13949 that don't have a single thing to do with this particular  
13950 bill, other than cost. And if it is your view we don't want  
13951 to pay with government funds to help folks with their kids  
13952 get educated, that is a position that I disagree with.

13953           I yield back.

13954           \*The Chairman. Does anyone else want to speak on the  
13955 Walberg amendment?

13956           Yes, Mr. Guthrie is recognized for five minutes.

13957           \*Mr. Guthrie. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for  
13958 the recognition, and I appreciate it.

13959           I have rural areas, such as Mr. Welch does, and we do  
13960 want children to have access. And I know there has been so  
13961 much -- I have had people tell me in my area, with all the  
13962 money from -- the money directly to counties and so forth,  
13963 that there is opportunities for broadband. It is just  
13964 getting construction to build it now.

13965           And this fund, as I look at it, it would be helpful in  
13966 that way, as always. You know, the concern is, though, is  
13967 that when we did the American Rescue Plan earlier this year  
13968 we had concerns that, by making it easier to do remote  
13969 learning, it makes it a disincentive to have kids back in  
13970 school. We know kids are better off if they are back in the  
13971 classroom. And I had school systems that -- in my district  
13972 that some didn't go to school for most of the year, and some  
13973 went almost every day with no spread. And so that is one  
13974 thing that we are just concerned about, because we have seen  
13975 that happen in other -- where districts could go to school  
13976 when they didn't go to school.

13977           But what I would like to do is yield my time -- yield  
13978 time to Mr. Walberg.

13979           \*Mr. Walberg. I thank the gentleman, and I appreciate  
13980 what my friend from Vermont says. But I think it missed the  
13981 point.

13982           I don't mind kids being at home at night with their  
13983 parents, or their brothers and sisters doing homework. No

13984 problem. But my concern is that we have made it easier for  
13985 teachers to keep them at home and still teach them remotely.  
13986 And in fact, we haven't used all the money yet that we  
13987 already appropriated for that -- \$7 billion, but we have got  
13988 another 2 trillion that hasn't been spent already to deal  
13989 with this remote issue of rural broadband.

13990 The President's pledge that spending in the reckless  
13991 tax-and-spending reconciliation package would not duplicate  
13992 spending in the bipartisan infrastructure package, he has  
13993 violated that already: \$40 billion for broadband deployment  
13994 already there. And yet we want to add more. Let's use what  
13995 we have already.

13996 Thank you, and I yield back to the gentleman.

13997 \*Mr. Guthrie. Thank you, Mr. Chair, and I yield back.

13998 \*The Chairman. Is there a Democrat that wants to speak  
13999 on this?

14000 Mr. Palmer wants time. The gentleman from Alabama is  
14001 recognized.

14002 \*Mr. Palmer. Mr. Chairman, I am not speaking on this.  
14003 I just want -- would like unanimous consent to enter into the  
14004 record the business item 39, the resolution adopted by the  
14005 NEA related to promoting critical race theory.

14006 \*The Chairman. I just got to check these things out.  
14007 Where is this from?

14008 \*Mr. Palmer. It is the pdf from the NEA of the

14009 resolution they passed at their last meeting.

14010 \*The Chairman. No, but what I am saying --

14011 \*Mr. Butterfield. The bipartisan --

14012 \*The Chairman. What am I looking at here?

14013 \*Mr. Palmer. It is the National Education Association's  
14014 resolution promoting critical race theory in American public  
14015 schools.

14016 \*The Chairman. Is that different from the one that we  
14017 had before?

14018 \*Voice. Yes.

14019 \*Mr. Palmer. Yes. That is the Conference of Mayors.

14020 \*The Chairman. Oh, and this is the NEA.

14021 \*Mr. Palmer. Yes, sir.

14022 \*The Chairman. All right, let me take a look at it. We  
14023 will get back to you.

14024 \*Mr. Palmer. Thank you, sir.

14025 \*Mr. Bucshon. Mr. Chairman?

14026 \*The Chairman. Yes, who is asking for recognition?

14027 \*Mr. Bucshon. Mr. Chairman, it is Bucshon. My hand is  
14028 up when it comes to the next Republican.

14029 \*The Chairman. Oh, Mr. Bucshon. Mr. Bucshon is  
14030 recognized for five minutes.

14031 \*Mr. Bucshon. I move to strike the last word.

14032 \*The Chairman. The gentleman is recognized, the  
14033 gentleman from Indiana is recognized.

14034           \*Mr. Bucshon. Yes, thank you, Mr. Chairman, I will be  
14035 very brief.

14036           I represent a rural area, and I want to agree with my  
14037 colleague, Mr. Welch. I think the unfortunate part of this,  
14038 as it relates to broadband, is that it is in this large  
14039 reconciliation package, and that -- we have already done some  
14040 things on it, but it is unfortunate we can't come together  
14041 and really have a -- really, a consistent plan on how to  
14042 address this problem, because in my district there is two  
14043 issues: one, physical infrastructure for people to get  
14044 broadband access; and number two, as Mr. Welch has pointed  
14045 out, people just don't have the money, even if it is  
14046 available. And we have to address both of those.

14047           I mean, I see this issue, honestly -- and I am going to  
14048 take it out of the context of education, which is what we are  
14049 talking about now -- just functioning overall in our lives,  
14050 in society today. You have to have access to the Internet.

14051           I mean, I think this is similar to the situation with  
14052 electricity to the last farm, and the telephone out to the  
14053 last farm. So I just want to say I am a supporter of rural  
14054 broadband, urban broadband, broadband for everyone, and the  
14055 issues are different in rural America. Again, like I said,  
14056 no infrastructure. Urban America, many people just can't  
14057 afford it. And I think we need to address all of those  
14058 issues, however we do it.



14059           I just think it is unfortunate, right now, that this  
14060 happens to be in the middle of a partisan reconciliation  
14061 package.

14062           And with that, Mr. Chairman, I yield back.

14063           \*Mr. Burgess. Dr. Bucshon, would you yield to me?

14064           \*Mr. Bucshon. I will --

14065           \*Mr. Burgess. This is Burgess.

14066           \*Mr. Bucshon. I will yield to Mr. Burgess from Texas.

14067           \*Mr. Burgess. Thank you, Dr. Bucshon. And I -- Mr.  
14068 Walberg has struck a nerve with me, because he is exactly  
14069 right. We did pass the American Rescue Plan the first of  
14070 February. We spent a ton of money. We have not had any, any  
14071 hearings on how we have done with the money that we have  
14072 already allocated and already spent.

14073           Look, we are an authorizing committee. That is what we  
14074 are supposed to do. We are supposed to hold the hearings,  
14075 gather the experts, look at what has been spent, how have we  
14076 done.

14077           And it is not that I object to spending more money on  
14078 broadband. What I object to is the velocity with which we  
14079 are spending money, because we are simply never taking title  
14080 or taking stock of what has already occurred. And again,  
14081 that is the rich history of this committee, one of the  
14082 premier authorizing committees in the Congress. And yet we  
14083 are spending money so fast you possibly could mistake us for

14084 appropriators, which would be a dreadful scenario to occur.

14085         So I just want to voice my support for Mr. Walberg.

14086         Thank you, Dr. Bucshon, for yielding, and I will yield  
14087 back.

14088         \*Mr. Bucshon. Reclaiming my time, you know, I -- this -  
14089 - the lack of oversight, I think, is really -- not only in  
14090 this area, but, for example, in health care, MACRA, we have  
14091 been asking to get multiple hearings on MACRA to go over  
14092 that.

14093         I mean, oversight is one of the critical things, I  
14094 think, that Congress does. And I think, when you avoid --  
14095 when you don't do that, then you do get into situations like  
14096 this, where we really -- we don't really know the effect of  
14097 the money that we have already spent, what the effect of that  
14098 is, whether that has helped rural America, urban America in  
14099 rural -- in broadband. Are we making strides, have we had  
14100 people that -- to acquire the money, and they have a plan to  
14101 address it? We just don't know, because we don't have  
14102 oversight.

14103         And again, I think that is one of the things that  
14104 Congress, in a bigger picture, in my over 10 years here, has  
14105 really, really dropped the ball on, the oversight of the  
14106 executive branch, regardless of party, and the oversight of  
14107 the things that we have passed in bipartisan ways to make  
14108 sure that congressional intent is carried out.

14109           And I think broadband is going to be one of those areas  
14110 because, you know, everybody is clamoring for the money. But  
14111 we want to make sure that it is done right. I mean, I don't  
14112 want to put in broadband that, in six months, is outdated  
14113 because the speed is insufficient.

14114           So my friend, Mr. Welch, is spot on. We need to address  
14115 this. I just think, again, it is unfortunate that we are in  
14116 the middle of this reconciliation package, and we really  
14117 haven't had a lot of oversight on what we have already spent.

14118           I yield back.

14119           \*The Chairman. Thank you. Now, you know, I apologize,  
14120 but we are getting hit with all these unanimous consent  
14121 requests with things that we haven't seen before.

14122           So Mr. Walberg asked that we enter into the record a  
14123 article from the National Review, "CDC Announced Stricter  
14124 School Masking Guidelines," by Caroline Downey, September  
14125 8th 2021. Now understand, I am trying to -- I want to verify  
14126 that these are what they appear to be, and not objecting to  
14127 the content of it. All right?

14128           So this one is what it appears to be, it is this article  
14129 in the National Review, and Mr. Walberg has asked unanimous  
14130 consent it be entered into the record.

14131           And without objection, it will be entered into the  
14132 record.

14133

14134 [The information follows:]

14135

14136 \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

14137

14138           \*The Chairman. Are there any other questions? Does  
14139 anyone --

14140           \*Voice. Mr. Chair?

14141           \*The Chairman. Oh, does anyone else -- we still have  
14142 the other two about the CRT that -- we are still trying to  
14143 make sure that they are what they appear to be.

14144           Does anyone else want to ask or comment on the Walberg  
14145 amendment?

14146           Okay, we are going to go to a vote. I assume, Mr.  
14147 Walberg, that you want a recorded vote, would that be  
14148 accurate?

14149           \*Mr. Walberg. Yes, please, Mr. Chairman.

14150           \*The Chairman. All right. A recorded vote is ordered.  
14151 Those in favor of the Walberg amendment will say aye, those  
14152 opposed to the amendment will say no, and the clerk shall  
14153 call the roll.

14154           \*The Clerk. Mr. Rush?

14155           \*Mr. Rush. Rush votes no.

14156           \*The Clerk. Mr. Rush votes no.  
14157 Ms. Eshoo?

14158           \*Ms. Eshoo. Eshoo of California votes no.

14159           \*The Clerk. Ms. Eshoo votes no.

14160           Ms. DeGette?

14161           \*Ms. DeGette. DeGette votes no.

14162           \*The Clerk. Ms. DeGette votes no.

14163 Mr. Doyle?

14164 \*Mr. Doyle. Doyle votes no.

14165 \*The Clerk. Mr. Doyle votes no.

14166 Ms. Schakowsky?

14167 \*Ms. Schakowsky. Schakowsky votes no.

14168 \*The Clerk. Ms. Schakowsky votes no.

14169 Mr. Butterfield?

14170 \*Mr. Butterfield. Butterfield votes no.

14171 \*The Clerk. Mr. Butterfield votes no.

14172 Ms. Matsui?

14173 \*Ms. Matsui. Matsui votes no.

14174 \*The Clerk. Ms. Matsui votes no.

14175 Ms. Castor?

14176 \*Ms. Castor. Castor votes no.

14177 \*The Clerk. Ms. Castor votes no.

14178 Mr. Sarbanes?

14179 \*Mr. Sarbanes. Sarbanes votes no.

14180 \*The Clerk. Mr. Sarbanes votes no.

14181 Mr. McNerney?

14182 \*Mr. McNerney. McNerney, California, no.

14183 \*The Clerk. Mr. McNerney votes no.

14184 Mr. Welch?

14185 \*Mr. Welch. No.

14186 \*The Clerk. Mr. Welch votes no.

14187 Mr. Tonko?

14188 \*Mr. Tonko. Tonko from New York votes no.  
14189 \*The Clerk. Mr. Tonko votes no.  
14190 Ms. Clarke?  
14191 \*Ms. Clarke. Ms. Clarke from New York votes no.  
14192 \*The Clerk. Ms. Clarke votes no.  
14193 Mr. Schrader?  
14194 \*Mr. Schrader. Schrader from Oregon votes no.  
14195 \*The Clerk. Mr. Schrader votes no.  
14196 Mr. Cardenas?  
14197 \*Mr. Cardenas. Cardenas, representing California, votes  
14198 no.  
14199 \*The Clerk. Mr. Cardenas votes no.  
14200 Mr. Ruiz?  
14201 \*Mr. Ruiz. Ruiz votes no.  
14202 [Pause.]  
14203 \*Mr. Ruiz. Ruiz votes no.  
14204 \*The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz votes no.  
14205 Mr. Peters?  
14206 \*Mr. Peters. [Inaudible.]  
14207 \*The Clerk. Mr. Peters votes no.  
14208 Mrs. Dingell?  
14209 \*Mrs. Dingell. Dingell votes no.  
14210 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell votes no.  
14211 Mr. Veasey?  
14212 \*Mr. Veasey. Veasey votes no.

14213           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Veasey votes no.  
14214           Ms. Kuster?  
14215           \*Ms. Kuster.   Kuster votes no.  
14216           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Kuster votes no.  
14217           Ms. Kelly?  
14218           \*Ms. Kelly.   Kelly votes no.  
14219           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Kelly votes no.  
14220           Ms. Barragan?  
14221           \*Ms. Barragan.   Barragan votes no.  
14222           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Barragan votes no.  
14223           Mr. McEachin?  
14224           \*Mr. McEachin.   McEachin of Virginia votes no.  
14225           \*The Clerk.   Mr. McEachin votes no.  
14226           Ms. Blunt Rochester?  
14227           \*Ms. Blunt Rochester.   Blunt Rochester of Delaware votes  
14228   no.  
14229           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Blunt Rochester votes no.  
14230           Mr. Soto?  
14231           \*Mr. Soto.   Soto votes no.  
14232           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Soto votes no.  
14233           Mr. O'Halleran?  
14234           \*Mr. O'Halleran.   O'Halleran votes no.  
14235           \*The Clerk.   Mr. O'Halleran votes no.  
14236           Miss Rice?  
14237           \*Miss Rice.   [Inaudible.]



14238           \*The Clerk. Miss Rice votes no.  
14239           Ms. Craig?  
14240           \*Ms. Craig. Craig votes no.  
14241           \*The Clerk. Ms. Craig votes no.  
14242           Ms. Schrier?  
14243           \*Ms. Schrier. Schrier votes no.  
14244           \*The Clerk. Ms. Schrier votes no.  
14245           Mrs. Trahan?  
14246           \*Mrs. Trahan. Trahan votes no.  
14247           \*The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan votes no.  
14248           Mrs. Fletcher?  
14249           \*Mrs. Fletcher. Fletcher votes no.  
14250           \*The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher votes no.  
14251           Mrs. Rodgers?  
14252           \*Mrs. Rodgers. Mrs. Rodgers votes aye.  
14253           \*The Clerk. Mrs. Rodgers votes aye.  
14254           Mr. Upton?  
14255           \*Mr. Upton. Upton votes aye.  
14256           [Pause.]  
14257           \*Mr. Upton. Upton votes aye.  
14258           \*The Clerk. Mr. Upton votes aye.  
14259           Mr. Burgess?  
14260           \*Mr. Burgess. Burgess votes aye.  
14261           [Pause.]  
14262           \*The Clerk. Mr. Burgess, could you repeat your vote?

14263 I can't see you.

14264 \*Mr. Burgess. Burgess votes aye.

14265 \*The Clerk. Mr. Burgess votes aye.

14266 Mr. Scalise?

14267 \*Mr. Scalise. Scalise votes aye.

14268 \*The Clerk. Mr. Scalise votes aye.

14269 Mr. Latta?

14270 \*Mr. Latta. Latta votes aye.

14271 \*The Clerk. Mr. Latta votes aye.

14272 Mr. Guthrie?

14273 \*Mr. Guthrie. Guthrie votes aye.

14274 \*The Clerk. Mr. Guthrie votes aye.

14275 Mr. McKinley?

14276 \*Mr. McKinley. McKinley votes aye.

14277 \*The Clerk. Mr. McKinley votes aye.

14278 Mr. Kinzinger?

14279 \*Mr. Kinzinger. Kinzinger votes aye.

14280 \*The Clerk. Mr. Kinzinger votes aye.

14281 Mr. Griffith?

14282 \*Mr. Griffith. Aye.

14283 \*The Clerk. Mr. Griffith votes aye.

14284 Mr. Bilirakis?

14285 \*Mr. Bilirakis. Bilirakis votes aye.

14286 \*The Clerk. Mr. Bilirakis votes aye.

14287 Mr. Johnson?

14288 \*Mr. Johnson. Johnson votes aye.  
14289 \*The Clerk. Mr. Johnson votes aye.  
14290 Mr. Long?  
14291 [No response.]  
14292 \*The Clerk. Mr. Bucshon?  
14293 \*Mr. Bucshon. Bucshon from Indiana votes aye.  
14294 \*The Clerk. Mr. Bucshon votes aye.  
14295 Mr. Mullin?  
14296 \*Mr. Mullin. Aye.  
14297 \*The Clerk. Mr. Mullin votes aye.  
14298 Mr. Hudson?  
14299 \*Mr. Hudson. Hudson of North Carolina votes aye.  
14300 \*The Clerk. Mr. Hudson votes aye.  
14301 Mr. Walberg?  
14302 \*Mr. Walberg. Walberg votes aye.  
14303 \*The Clerk. Mr. Walberg votes aye.  
14304 Mr. Carter?  
14305 \*Mr. Carter. Carter votes aye.  
14306 \*The Clerk. Mr. Carter votes aye.  
14307 Mr. Duncan?  
14308 \*Mr. Duncan. Mr. Duncan votes aye.  
14309 \*The Clerk. Mr. Duncan votes aye.  
14310 Mr. Palmer?  
14311 \*Mr. Palmer. Palmer votes aye.  
14312 \*The Clerk. Mr. Palmer votes aye.

14313 Mr. Dunn?

14314 \*Mr. Dunn. Mr. Dunn of Florida votes aye.

14315 \*The Clerk. Mr. Dunn votes aye.

14316 Mr. Curtis?

14317 \*Mr. Curtis. Curtis votes aye.

14318 \*The Clerk. Mr. Curtis votes aye.

14319 Mrs. Lesko?

14320 \*Mrs. Lesko. Lesko votes aye.

14321 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Lesko votes aye.

14322 Mr. Pence?

14323 \*Mr. Pence. Pence votes aye.

14324 \*The Clerk. Mr. Pence votes aye.

14325 Mr. Crenshaw?

14326 \*Mr. Crenshaw. Crenshaw votes aye.

14327 \*The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw votes aye.

14328 Mr. Joyce?

14329 \*Mr. Joyce. Joyce from Pennsylvania votes aye.

14330 \*The Clerk. Mr. Joyce votes aye.

14331 Mr. Armstrong?

14332 \*Mr. Armstrong. Armstrong votes yes.

14333 \*The Clerk. Mr. Armstrong votes aye.

14334 Mr. Pallone?

14335 \*The Chairman. Pallone from New Jersey votes no.

14336 \*The Clerk. Mr. Pallone votes no.

14337 \*The Chairman. Has anyone not voted, Madam Clerk?

14338           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Long.

14339           \*The Chairman.   Mr. Long, are you there?

14340           [No response.]

14341           \*The Chairman.   All right, the clerk will report the  
14342 tally.   This is on the Walberg amendment.

14343           \*The Clerk.   On that vote, Mr. Chairman, the yeas were  
14344 25 and the nays were 32.

14345           \*The Chairman.   So on the Walberg amendment the vote is  
14346 25 ayes to 32 noes.   The amendment is not agreed to.

14347           As the night goes on, we are getting more people coming  
14348 back.   That is an interesting phenomenon.

14349           All right, does any -- is there -- are there any other  
14350 amendments to the -- in the -- to the ANS?

14351           Mr. Latta has an amendment to the ANS?   The gentleman -  
14352 - do we have the -- do you want to -- what is the label, what  
14353 is the number for your amendment, Mr. Latta?

14354           \*Mr. Latta.   It is CT\_25.

14355           \*The Chairman.   Does the clerk have that?

14356           \*The Clerk.   Yes, I have it.

14357           \*The Chairman.   All right.   The clerk will report the  
14358 Latta amendment.

14359           \*The Clerk.   Amendment to Subtitle M, offered by Mr.  
14360 Latta of Ohio.   Page 1, line 8 --

14361           \*The Chairman.   Without objection, the reading of the  
14362 Latta amendment will be dispensed with.

14363           [The amendment of Mr. Latta follows:]

14364

14365       \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

14366

14367           \*The Chairman. And the gentleman from Ohio is  
14368 recognized for five minutes.

14369           \*Mr. Latta. Well, thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I  
14370 move to strike the last word. And again, I apologize for my  
14371 allergies. Again, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

14372           For nearly a decade now, this committee has worked in a  
14373 bipartisan way on enacting good broadband policy in rural  
14374 areas --

14375           \*The Chairman. Is it?

14376           \*Voice. The next one --

14377           \*The Chairman. Yes, yes, yes.

14378           \*Mr. Latta. And I know this for a fact, through all the  
14379 work that we have done in our Rural Broadband Caucus.

14380           But today Democrats are throwing bipartisanship to the  
14381 side, and putting politics before progress. Last fall,  
14382 Congress enacted two bipartisan broadband programs, totaling  
14383 \$1.3 billion to connect Americans in rural and tribal areas  
14384 that are now in the process of accepting applications.

14385           Additionally, under the Trump Administration, the FCC  
14386 voted to make \$20 billion available for broadband deployment  
14387 in rural areas, with all five commissioners supporting it.

14388           The Emergency Connectivity Fund was created during -- as  
14389 a temporary response -- I would emphasize temporary -- to an  
14390 emergency situation, the COVID-19 pandemic, and help  
14391 Americans stay connected to work and learn from home, when

14392 they could not attend in person. Yet schools and places of  
14393 work are now reopening, and the urgent need for these funds  
14394 is no longer necessary.

14395 In fact, the FCC has about \$2 billion in unspent money  
14396 in the Emergency Connectivity Fund available to be  
14397 distributed. This legislation would add four billion to the  
14398 Emergency Connectivity Fund, but changes the purpose, so that  
14399 these funds can be used after this legislation passes. It  
14400 does nothing to require these funds to be used to respond to  
14401 the COVID-19 emergency.

14402 My good friend and colleague, the chairman of the  
14403 Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, said during  
14404 his opening statement that these funds are necessary to close  
14405 the homework gap, they connect teachers and students so they  
14406 can complete their homework. But unfortunately, that is not  
14407 true. The emergency fund allows funds to be used to provide  
14408 broadband to students and staff and library patrons at any  
14409 location that is a school library, or that includes locations  
14410 other than a school or library. That means this money can be  
14411 used anywhere for anything that constitutes providing  
14412 broadband service, with no priority for unserved areas.

14413 If you want to know how to close the homework gap, close  
14414 the digital divide. Direct scarce Federal resources to areas  
14415 that currently have no broadband access. Don't create a  
14416 slush fund for the teachers unions that would just add to the



14417 inflation that this legislation would advance.

14418       My amendment is simple. It would direct funds the  
14419 Democrats want to give away to appease teachers unions to  
14420 deploy long-term broadband infrastructure in rural areas.

14421       In light of the COVID pandemic, we all know how  
14422 important broadband access is, including for members who are  
14423 conducting this markup right now remotely. We should be  
14424 putting this four billion toward permanent broadband  
14425 infrastructure, rather than on temporary solutions to close  
14426 the digital divide once and for all.

14427       I urge my colleagues to support the building on this  
14428 broadband success by more support for rural and tribal  
14429 broadband.

14430       And with that, Mr. Chairman, I yield back the balance of  
14431 my time.

14432       \*The Chairman. I thank the gentleman. Would anyone  
14433 else like to speak on the Latta amendment?

14434       Mr. Welch, you are recognized for five minutes.

14435       \*Mr. Welch. Well, first of all, I want to acknowledge  
14436 the good work that Mr. Latta has done over the years on  
14437 broadband. But this amendment really raises a question of  
14438 choice, of policy -- a policy choice: Do we want to put more  
14439 money into the deployment?

14440       And obviously, deployment is something that has to be  
14441 done, particularly in our rural areas, and we are doing it.

14442           Or do we want to take this money -- and it is limited to  
14443   four million -- and make the existing infrastructure -- make  
14444   it affordable for kids who live in these rural areas to get  
14445   the device they need, and to be able to afford access to the  
14446   Internet?

14447           There is two things that have to be provided -- that  
14448   have to be present in order for somebody to be on the  
14449   Internet. One is the infrastructure, and that is what Mr.  
14450   Latta's amendment is talking about, but it is also the area  
14451   where we have spent considerable money. But then secondly, a  
14452   family who is along the infrastructure has to be able to  
14453   afford to connect.

14454           And the target of my amendment is to make that  
14455   infrastructure that is present be accessible through the  
14456   support of the amendment, so that that library in that  
14457   community is able to connect that child in a home. I mean,  
14458   that is a child of a family that otherwise would not be able  
14459   to afford it.

14460           So, you know, Mr. Latta makes a good point. I am not  
14461   going to be critical of his commitment to the broadband  
14462   buildout. We have to have that. But this amendment is about  
14463   getting that kid and that family along the line being able to  
14464   connect up. Because if they are unable to afford it, absent  
14465   this amendment, that Internet going by their house will never  
14466   be connected to their device.

14467 I yield back.

14468 \*The Chairman. I thank the gentleman from Vermont.

14469 Anyone else on this Latta amendment?

14470 If not, we will go to a vote. I assume we want a  
14471 recorded vote, Mr. Latta, or you don't care? A recorded  
14472 vote?

14473 A recorded vote is ordered on the Latta amendment.  
14474 Those in favor of the amendment will say aye, those opposed  
14475 will say no, and the clerk shall call the roll.

14476 \*The Clerk. Mr. Rush?

14477 \*Mr. Rush. Rush votes aye. No, Rush votes no.

14478 \*The Clerk. Mr. Rush votes no.

14479 Ms. Eshoo?

14480 \*Ms. Eshoo. Eshoo of California votes no.

14481 \*The Clerk. Ms. Eshoo votes no.

14482 Ms. DeGette?

14483 \*Ms. DeGette. DeGette votes no.

14484 \*The Clerk. Ms. DeGette votes no.

14485 Mr. Doyle?

14486 \*Mr. Doyle. Doyle votes no.

14487 \*The Clerk. Mr. Doyle votes no.

14488 Ms. Schakowsky?

14489 \*Ms. Schakowsky. Schakowsky votes no.

14490 \*The Clerk. Ms. Schakowsky votes no.

14491 Mr. Butterfield?

14492 \*Mr. Butterfield. Butterfield votes no.  
14493 \*The Clerk. Mr. Butterfield votes no.  
14494 Ms. Matsui?  
14495 \*Ms. Matsui. Matsui votes no.  
14496 \*The Clerk. Ms. Matsui votes no.  
14497 Ms. Castor?  
14498 \*Ms. Castor. Castor votes no.  
14499 \*The Clerk. Ms. Castor votes no.  
14500 Mr. Sarbanes?  
14501 \*Mr. Sarbanes. Sarbanes votes no.  
14502 \*The Clerk. Mr. Sarbanes votes no.  
14503 Mr. McNerney?  
14504 \*Mr. McNerney. McNerney votes no.  
14505 [Pause.]  
14506 \*Mr. McNerney. McNerney votes no.  
14507 \*The Clerk. Mr. McNerney votes no.  
14508 Mr. Welch?  
14509 \*Mr. Welch. [Inaudible.]  
14510 \*The Clerk. Mr. Welch votes no.  
14511 Mr. Tonko?  
14512 \*Mr. Tonko. Tonko from New York votes no.  
14513 \*The Clerk. Mr. Tonko votes no.  
14514 Ms. Clarke?  
14515 \*Ms. Clarke. Clarke from New York votes no.  
14516 \*The Clerk. Ms. Clarke votes no.

14517 Mr. Schrader?  
14518 [No response.]  
14519 \*The Clerk. Mr. Cardenas?  
14520 \*Mr. Cardenas. Cardenas, representing California, votes  
14521 no.  
14522 \*The Clerk. Mr. Cardenas votes no.  
14523 Mr. Ruiz?  
14524 \*Mr. Ruiz. Ruiz votes no.  
14525 \*The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz votes no.  
14526 Mr. Peters?  
14527 [No response.]  
14528 \*The Clerk. Mr. Peters?  
14529 \*Mr. Peters. [Inaudible.]  
14530 \*The Clerk. Mr. Peters votes no.  
14531 Mrs. Dingell?  
14532 \*Mrs. Dingell. Votes no.  
14533 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell votes no.  
14534 Mr. Veasey?  
14535 \*Mr. Veasey. Veasey votes no.  
14536 \*The Clerk. Mr. Veasey votes no.  
14537 Ms. Kuster?  
14538 \*Ms. Kuster. Kuster votes no.  
14539 \*The Clerk. Ms. Kuster votes no.  
14540 Ms. Kelly?  
14541 \*Ms. Kelly. Kelly votes no.

14542           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Kelly votes no.  
14543           Ms. Barragan?  
14544           \*Ms. Barragan.   Barragan votes no.  
14545           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Barragan votes no.  
14546           Mr. McEachin?  
14547           \*Mr. McEachin.   McEachin of Virginia votes no.  
14548           \*The Clerk.   Mr. McEachin votes no.  
14549           Ms. Blunt Rochester?  
14550           \*Ms. Blunt Rochester.   Ms. Blunt Rochester of Delaware  
14551   votes no.  
14552           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Blunt Rochester votes no.  
14553           Mr. Soto?  
14554           \*Mr. Soto.   Soto votes no.  
14555           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Soto votes no.  
14556           Mr. O'Halleran?  
14557           \*Mr. O'Halleran.   O'Halleran votes no.  
14558           \*The Clerk.   Mr. O'Halleran votes no.  
14559           Miss Rice?  
14560           \*Miss Rice.   [Inaudible.]  
14561           \*The Clerk.   Miss Rice votes no.  
14562           Ms. Craig?  
14563           \*Ms. Craig.   Ms. Craig of Minnesota votes no.  
14564           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Craig votes no.  
14565           Ms. Schrier?  
14566           \*Ms. Schrier.   Schrier votes no.

14567           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Schrier votes no.  
14568           Mrs. Trahan?  
14569           \*Mrs. Trahan.   Trahan votes no.  
14570           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Trahan votes no.  
14571           Mrs. Fletcher?  
14572           \*Mrs. Fletcher.   Fletcher votes no.  
14573           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Fletcher votes no.  
14574           Mrs. Rodgers?  
14575           \*Mrs. Rodgers.   Rodgers votes aye.  
14576           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Rodgers votes aye.  
14577           Mr. Upton?  
14578           \*Mr. Upton.   Upton votes --  
14579           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Upton, could you repeat your vote?  
14580           \*Mr. Upton.   Yes, Upton votes aye.  
14581           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Upton votes aye.  
14582           Mr. Burgess?  
14583           \*Mr. Burgess.   Burgess votes aye.  
14584           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Burgess votes aye.  
14585           Mr. Scalise?  
14586           \*Mr. Scalise.   Scalise votes aye.  
14587           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Scalise votes aye.  
14588           Mr. Latta?  
14589           [No response.]  
14590           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Latta?   Mr. Latta, I think you are  
14591   muted.

14592 \*Mr. Latta. Latta votes aye.  
14593 \*The Clerk. Mr. Latta votes aye.  
14594 Mr. Guthrie?  
14595 \*Mr. Guthrie. Guthrie votes aye.  
14596 \*The Clerk. Mr. Guthrie votes aye.  
14597 Mr. McKinley?  
14598 \*Mr. McKinley. McKinley votes aye.  
14599 \*The Clerk. Mr. McKinley votes aye.  
14600 Mr. Kinzinger?  
14601 \*Mr. Kinzinger. Kinzinger votes aye.  
14602 \*The Clerk. Mr. Kinzinger votes aye.  
14603 Mr. Griffith?  
14604 \*Mr. Griffith. Griffith votes aye.  
14605 \*The Clerk. Mr. Griffith votes aye.  
14606 Mr. Bilirakis?  
14607 \*Mr. Bilirakis. Bilirakis votes aye.  
14608 \*The Clerk. Mr. Bilirakis votes aye.  
14609 Mr. Johnson?  
14610 \*Mr. Johnson. Johnson votes aye.  
14611 \*The Clerk. Mr. Johnson votes aye.  
14612 Mr. Long?  
14613 [No response.]  
14614 \*The Clerk. Mr. Bucshon?  
14615 \*Mr. Bucshon. Bucshon from Indiana votes aye.  
14616 \*The Clerk. Mr. Bucshon votes aye.



14617 Mr. Mullin?  
14618 \*Mr. Mullin. Aye.  
14619 \*The Clerk. Mr. Mullin votes aye.  
14620 Mr. Hudson?  
14621 \*Mr. Hudson. Hudson of North Carolina votes aye.  
14622 \*The Clerk. Mr. Hudson votes aye.  
14623 Mr. Walberg?  
14624 \*Mr. Walberg. Walberg votes aye.  
14625 \*The Clerk. Mr. Walberg votes aye.  
14626 Mr. Carter?  
14627 \*Mr. Carter. Carter from Georgia votes aye.  
14628 \*The Clerk. Mr. Carter votes aye.  
14629 Mr. Duncan?  
14630 [No response.]  
14631 \*The Clerk. Mr. Palmer?  
14632 \*Mr. Duncan. Duncan votes aye.  
14633 \*The Clerk. Mr. Duncan votes aye.  
14634 Mr. Palmer?  
14635 \*Mr. Palmer. Palmer votes aye.  
14636 \*The Clerk. Mr. Palmer votes aye.  
14637 Mr. Dunn?  
14638 \*Mr. Dunn. Mr. Dunn of Florida votes aye.  
14639 [Pause.]  
14640 \*Mr. Dunn. Mr. Dunn of --  
14641 \*The Clerk. Mr. Dunn votes --

14642 \*Mr. Dunn. -- Florida votes aye.  
14643 \*The Clerk. Mr. Dunn votes aye.  
14644 Mr. Curtis?  
14645 \*Mr. Curtis. Curtis votes aye.  
14646 \*The Clerk. Mr. Curtis votes aye.  
14647 Mrs. Lesko?  
14648 \*Mrs. Lesko. Lesko votes aye.  
14649 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Lesko votes aye.  
14650 Mr. Pence?  
14651 \*Mr. Pence. Pence from Indiana votes aye.  
14652 \*The Clerk. Mr. Pence votes aye.  
14653 Mr. Crenshaw?  
14654 \*Mr. Crenshaw. Crenshaw votes aye.  
14655 \*The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw votes aye.  
14656 Mr. Joyce?  
14657 \*Mr. Joyce. Joyce from Pennsylvania votes aye.  
14658 \*The Clerk. Mr. Joyce votes aye.  
14659 Mr. Armstrong?  
14660 \*Mr. Armstrong. Armstrong votes yes.  
14661 \*The Clerk. Mr. Armstrong votes aye.  
14662 Mr. Pallone?  
14663 \*The Chairman. Pallone from New Jersey votes no.  
14664 \*The Clerk. Mr. Pallone votes no.  
14665 \*The Chairman. Has any -- Mr. Schrader, I don't think  
14666 you voted.

14667           \*The Clerk. Mr. Schrader is not recorded.

14668           \*The Chairman. Mr. Schrader?

14669           \*Mr. Schrader. Schrader from Oregon is no.

14670           \*The Clerk. Mr. Schrader votes no.

14671           \*The Chairman. Anyone else who hasn't voted and wants  
14672 to?

14673           That is -- everyone else has voted? Okay, the clerk  
14674 will report the tally on the Latta of Ohio amendment.

14675           \*The Clerk. On that vote, Mr. Chairman, the yeas were  
14676 25 and the nays were 32.

14677           \*The Chairman. So the vote on the Latta amendment is 25  
14678 ayes to 32 noes. The amendment is not agreed to.

14679           Are there further amendments to the amendment in the  
14680 nature of a substitute?

14681           Any more on this one? No?

14682           All right, then we will go to the amendment in the  
14683 nature of a substitute, which was Mr. Welch's. We are going  
14684 to have a voice vote on that, right?

14685           All right, so we are going to now proceed to a vote on  
14686 the amendment in the nature of a substitute to the committee  
14687 print, Subtitle M: Budget Reconciliation Legislative  
14688 Recommendations Relating to Distant Learning.

14689           All those in favor of the amendment in the nature of a  
14690 substitute to the committee print, Subtitle M: Budget  
14691 Reconciliation Legislative Recommendations Relating to

14692 Distance Learning will signify by saying aye.

14693 All those opposed will say no.

14694 In the opinion of the chair, the ayes have it, and the  
14695 amendment in the nature of a substitute to the committee  
14696 print, Subtitle M: Budget Reconciliation Legislative  
14697 Recommendations Relating to Distance Learning is agreed to.

14698 The question now occurs on approval and transmitting to  
14699 the Committee on Budget the committee print, Subtitle M:  
14700 Budget Reconciliation Legislative Recommendations Relating to  
14701 Distance Learning, as amended.

14702 I move the committee do now approve and transmit the  
14703 recommendations of this committee, and all appropriate  
14704 accompanying material, including additional supplemental,  
14705 minority, or dissenting views to the House Committee on the  
14706 Budget, in order to comply with the reconciliation directive  
14707 included in section 2002 of the concurrent resolution on the  
14708 budget for fiscal year 2022, S.Con.Res 14, and consistent  
14709 with section 310 of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment  
14710 Control Act of 1974.

14711 I assume we are going to have a roll call.

14712 \*Mrs. Rodgers. Yes.

14713 \*The Chairman. A recorded vote is ordered. Please, all  
14714 those in favor will signify by saying aye, and those opposed  
14715 will say no. This is a final passage, and the clerk shall  
14716 call the roll.

14717           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Rush?

14718           \*Mr. Rush.   Rush of Illinois votes no -- votes aye.

14719           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Rush votes aye.

14720           Ms. Eshoo?

14721           \*Ms. Eshoo.   Eshoo of California votes aye.

14722           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Eshoo votes aye.

14723           Ms. DeGette?

14724           \*Ms. DeGette.   DeGette votes aye.

14725           \*The Clerk.   Ms. DeGette votes aye.

14726           Mr. Doyle?

14727           \*Mr. Doyle.   Doyle votes yes.

14728           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Doyle votes aye.

14729           Ms. Schakowsky?

14730           \*Ms. Schakowsky.   Schakowsky votes aye.

14731           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Schakowsky votes aye.

14732           Mr. Butterfield?

14733           \*Mr. Butterfield.   Butterfield votes aye.

14734           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Butterfield votes aye.

14735           Ms. Matsui?

14736           \*Ms. Matsui.   Matsui votes aye.

14737           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Matsui votes aye.

14738           Ms. Castor?

14739           \*Ms. Castor.   Castor votes aye.

14740           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Castor votes aye.

14741           Mr. Sarbanes?

14742 \*Mr. Sarbanes. Sarbanes votes aye.  
14743 \*The Clerk. Mr. Sarbanes votes aye.  
14744 Mr. McNerney?  
14745 \*Mr. McNerney. McNerney from California votes aye.  
14746 \*The Clerk. Mr. McNerney votes aye.  
14747 Mr. Welch?  
14748 \*Mr. Welch. Aye.  
14749 \*The Clerk. Mr. Welch votes aye.  
14750 Mr. Tonko?  
14751 \*Mr. Tonko. Tonko from New York votes aye.  
14752 \*The Clerk. Mr. Tonko votes aye.  
14753 Ms. Clarke?  
14754 \*Ms. Clarke. Clarke from New York votes aye.  
14755 \*The Clerk. Ms. Clarke votes aye.  
14756 Mr. Schrader?  
14757 \*Mr. Schrader. Schrader from Oregon votes no.  
14758 \*The Clerk. Mr. Schrader votes no.  
14759 Mr. Cardenas?  
14760 \*Mr. Cardenas. Cardenas, representing California, votes  
14761 aye.  
14762 \*The Clerk. Mr. Cardenas votes aye.  
14763 Mr. Ruiz?  
14764 \*Mr. Ruiz. Ruiz votes no. I am sorry, Ruiz votes aye.  
14765 \*The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz votes aye.  
14766 Mr. Peters?

14767           \*Mr. Peters.   Aye.  
14768           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Peters votes aye.  
14769           Mrs. Dingell?  
14770           \*Mrs. Dingell.   Dingell votes aye.  
14771           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Dingell votes aye.  
14772           Mr. Veasey?  
14773           \*Mr. Veasey.   Veasey votes aye.  
14774           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Veasey votes aye.  
14775           Ms. Kuster?  
14776           \*Ms. Kuster.   Kuster votes aye.  
14777           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Kuster votes aye.  
14778           Ms. Kelly?  
14779           \*Ms. Kelly.   Kelly votes aye.  
14780           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Kelly votes aye.  
14781           Ms. Barragan?  
14782           \*Ms. Barragan.   Barragan votes aye.  
14783           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Barragan votes aye.  
14784           Mr. McEachin?  
14785           \*Mr. McEachin.   McEachin of Virginia votes aye.  
14786           \*The Clerk.   Mr. McEachin votes aye.  
14787           Ms. Blunt Rochester?  
14788           \*Ms. Blunt Rochester.   Ms. Blunt Rochester of Delaware  
14789   votes aye.  
14790           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Blunt Rochester votes aye.  
14791           Mr. Soto?

14792 \*Mr. Soto. Soto votes aye.  
14793 \*The Clerk. Mr. Soto votes aye.  
14794 Mr. O'Halleran?  
14795 \*Mr. O'Halleran. O'Halleran votes aye.  
14796 \*The Clerk. Mr. O'Halleran votes aye.  
14797 Miss Rice?  
14798 \*Miss Rice. [Inaudible.]  
14799 \*The Clerk. Miss Rice votes aye.  
14800 Ms. Craig?  
14801 \*Ms. Craig. Craig from Minnesota votes aye.  
14802 \*The Clerk. Ms. Craig votes aye.  
14803 Ms. Schrier?  
14804 \*Ms. Schrier. Schrier votes aye.  
14805 \*The Clerk. Ms. Schrier votes aye.  
14806 Mrs. Trahan?  
14807 \*Mrs. Trahan. Trahan votes aye.  
14808 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan votes aye.  
14809 Mrs. Fletcher?  
14810 \*Mrs. Fletcher. Fletcher votes aye.  
14811 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher votes aye.  
14812 Mrs. Rodgers?  
14813 \*Mrs. Rodgers. [Inaudible.]  
14814 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Rodgers votes no.  
14815 Mr. Upton?  
14816 \*Mr. Upton. Upton votes no.



14817           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Upton, could you repeat your vote?  
14818           \*Mr. Upton.   Yes, Upton votes no.  
14819           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Upton votes no.  
14820           Mr. Burgess?  
14821           \*Mr. Burgess.   Burgess votes no.  
14822           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Burgess votes no.  
14823           Mr. Scalise?  
14824           \*Mr. Scalise.   Scalise votes no.  
14825           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Scalise votes no.  
14826           Mr. Latta?  
14827           \*Mr. Latta.   Latta votes no.  
14828           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Latta votes no.  
14829           Mr. Guthrie?  
14830           \*Mr. Guthrie.   Guthrie votes no.  
14831           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Guthrie votes no.  
14832           Mr. McKinley?  
14833           \*Mr. McKinley.   McKinley votes no.  
14834           \*The Clerk.   Mr. McKinley votes no.  
14835           Mr. Kinzinger?  
14836           \*Mr. Kinzinger.   Kinzinger votes no.  
14837           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Kinzinger votes no.  
14838           Mr. Griffith?  
14839           \*Mr. Griffith.   No.  
14840           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Griffith votes no.  
14841           Mr. Bilirakis?

14842 \*Mr. Bilirakis. [Inaudible.]  
14843 \*The Clerk. Mr. Bilirakis votes no.  
14844 Mr. Johnson?  
14845 \*Mr. Johnson. Johnson votes no.  
14846 \*The Clerk. Mr. Johnson votes no.  
14847 Mr. Long?  
14848 [No response.]  
14849 \*The Clerk. Mr. Bucshon?  
14850 \*Mr. Bucshon. Bucshon from Indiana votes no.  
14851 \*The Clerk. Mr. Bucshon votes no.  
14852 Mr. Mullin?  
14853 \*Mr. Mullin. No.  
14854 \*The Clerk. Mr. Mullin votes no.  
14855 Mr. Hudson?  
14856 \*Mr. Hudson. Hudson of North Carolina votes no.  
14857 \*The Clerk. Mr. Hudson votes no.  
14858 Mr. Walberg?  
14859 \*Mr. Walberg. Walberg votes no.  
14860 \*The Clerk. Mr. Walberg votes no.  
14861 Mr. Carter?  
14862 \*Mr. Carter. Carter from Georgia votes no.  
14863 \*The Clerk. Mr. Carter votes no.  
14864 Mr. Duncan?  
14865 \*Mr. Duncan. Mr. Duncan votes no.  
14866 \*The Clerk. Mr. Duncan votes no.

14867 Mr. Palmer?  
14868 \*Mr. Palmer. Palmer is no.  
14869 \*The Clerk. Mr. Palmer votes no.  
14870 Mr. Dunn?  
14871 \*Mr. Dunn. Mr. Dunn of Florida votes no.  
14872 \*The Clerk. Mr. Dunn votes no.  
14873 Mr. Curtis?  
14874 \*Mr. Curtis. Curtis votes no.  
14875 \*The Clerk. Mr. Curtis votes no.  
14876 Mrs. Lesko?  
14877 \*Mrs. Lesko. Lesko votes no.  
14878 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Lesko votes no.  
14879 Mr. Pence?  
14880 \*Mr. Pence. Pence from Indiana votes no.  
14881 \*The Clerk. Mr. Pence votes no.  
14882 Mr. Crenshaw?  
14883 \*Mr. Crenshaw. Crenshaw votes no.  
14884 \*The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw votes no.  
14885 Mr. Joyce?  
14886 \*Mr. Joyce. Joyce from Pennsylvania votes no.  
14887 \*The Clerk. Mr. Joyce votes no.  
14888 Mr. Armstrong?  
14889 \*Mr. Armstrong. Armstrong votes no.  
14890 \*The Clerk. Mr. Armstrong votes no.  
14891 Mr. Pallone?

14892           \*The Chairman. Pallone from New Jersey votes aye.

14893           \*The Clerk. Mr. Pallone votes aye.

14894           \*The Chairman. Has anyone else who wants to be recorded  
14895 not been recorded? And -- no?

14896           All right. If not, the clerk will report the tally.  
14897 And again, this is final passage of Subtitle M, Distance  
14898 Learning.

14899           \*The Clerk. On that vote the yeas were 31 and the nays  
14900 were 26.

14901           \*The Chairman. Twenty-six? Okay, the vote is 31 ayes  
14902 to 26 noes. The committee has approved the committee print,  
14903 Subtitle M: Budget Reconciliation Legislative  
14904 Recommendations Relating to Distance Learning, as amended,  
14905 and ordered the legislative recommendations transmitted to  
14906 the Committee on Budget.

14907           Now --

14908           \*Mrs. Rodgers. Mr. Chairman?

14909           \*The Chairman. Yes? Oh, I am sorry.

14910           \*Mrs. Rodgers. I plan to file views, and request the  
14911 usual number of days.

14912           \*The Chairman. Without objection, so ordered.

14913           Now the plan is to at least -- well, the plan is to get  
14914 through the drinking water and energy titles, which are two  
14915 more bills, tonight. That still only gets us to, like, 7 out  
14916 of the 16, but I don't think we can stay here all night,

14917 because, otherwise, how are we going to work tomorrow?

14918 So we are going to proceed to the drinking water title  
14919 now. And then, after that, we will do energy.

14920 Where is the drinking water title here? This is now  
14921 drinking water.

14922 The chair calls up the committee print, Subtitle C:  
14923 Budget Reconciliation Legislative Recommendations Relating to  
14924 Drinking Water, and the clerk will report the title of the  
14925 bill.

14926 \*The Clerk. Committee print, Budget Reconciliation  
14927 Legislative Recommendations --

14928 \*The Chairman. And without objection, Madam Clerk, the  
14929 first reading of the bill will be dispensed with. The bill  
14930 is now considered as read.

14931 And without objection, the bill is considered as read,  
14932 and open for amendment.

14933 [The bill follows:]

14934

14935 \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

14936

14937           \*Mr. Tonko. Mr. Chair?

14938           \*The Chairman. Mr. Tonko has a -- has the ANS.

14939           \*Mr. Tonko. Mr. Chair, I have an amendment in the

14940 nature of a substitute at the desk, labeled Subtitle C\_01.

14941           \*The Chairman. And I assume the clerk has that.

14942           \*The Clerk. Yes.

14943           \*The Chairman. The clerk will report the ANS.

14944           \*The Clerk. Amendment in the nature of a substitute to

14945 committee print for Subtitle C, offered by Mr. Tonko of New

14946 York.

14947           \*The Chairman. Madam Clerk, without objection, the

14948 reading of the amendment will be dispensed with.

14949           [The amendment of Mr. Tonko follows:]

14950

14951           \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

14952

14953           \*The Chairman. And Mr. Tonko of New York is now  
14954 recognized for five minutes.

14955           \*Mr. Tonko. Thank you. Mr. Chair, we know the  
14956 challenges faced by our nation's drinking water systems. The  
14957 EPA's 2018 Needs Survey estimated that over \$472 billion is  
14958 required to maintain our drinking water systems over the next  
14959 20 years.

14960           In my district, we have 100-plus-year-old pipes, and  
14961 near-daily water main breaks. The infrastructure needs of  
14962 these aging systems are immense. And for every year we wait,  
14963 those needs continue to grow.

14964           We also have a rise of dangerous contaminants, lead,  
14965 PFAS, and many others, threatening the public health of  
14966 Americans all across our country. And we have a growing and  
14967 serious need to address water affordability. In light of the  
14968 COVID-19 pandemic, as well as other strains on our water  
14969 systems, including aging infrastructure, customers are  
14970 finding it more and more difficult to pay their bills for  
14971 this essential service. The investments included in this  
14972 subtitle will go a long way in addressing these issues.

14973           This amendment makes a few minor changes to the  
14974 previously-circulated committee print, but the bulk of the  
14975 \$32.5 billion invested in drinking water remains unchanged.

14976           The subtitle invests in water system resilience, state  
14977 water programs, colonias, tribes, disadvantaged communities,

14978 and areas that have experienced natural disasters. It  
14979 provides \$500 million for water assistance, building upon  
14980 funding enacted in the past year to address water  
14981 affordability issues.

14982 It also has funding to reduce lead in school drinking  
14983 water, including filtration systems, water fountain  
14984 replacement, and enhanced testing.

14985 Most importantly, this subtitle includes \$30 billion for  
14986 full lead service line replacements through the Drinking  
14987 Water State Revolving Fund. In 2021 no American family,  
14988 regardless of its race, income level, or zip code, should  
14989 have to worry about lead in their drinking water. But sadly,  
14990 we know there are an estimated 10 million lead service lines  
14991 in use across our country. This funding will put Americans  
14992 to work, eliminating lead in our water systems.

14993 The infrastructure we rely upon has been ignored and  
14994 neglected for decades. The resources in this subtitle will  
14995 ensure the Federal Government steps up to support local and  
14996 state governments, and protect communities. We have a once-  
14997 in-a-generation opportunity to make the investments that will  
14998 rebuild our water infrastructure, protect public health, and  
14999 certainly create jobs.

15000 I urge all members, Mr. Chair, to support this amendment  
15001 in the nature of a substitute, and with that I yield back.

15002 \*The Chairman. The gentlewoman, the ranking member, is



15003 recognized for five minutes.

15004           \*Mrs. Rodgers. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, I move to  
15005 strike the last word.

15006           \*The Chairman. The gentlewoman is recognized.

15007           \*Mrs. Rodgers. I plan to oppose this subtitle, and I  
15008 encourage my colleagues today to oppose, as well.

15009           I want to protect safe water drinking systems. That is  
15010 why Mr. McKinley and I are leading on the Drinking Water  
15011 Funding for the Future Act, which reauthorizes most of the  
15012 programs contained in Subtitle C. This is not a partisan  
15013 issue, and it should not be one. Coming together on drinking  
15014 water infrastructure has never been an issue in my time here,  
15015 until this Congress.

15016           What I don't want for our children and their futures is  
15017 the mountains of debt and increased inflation this subtitle  
15018 will create.

15019           Let me be clear: Many of us are getting dizzy from this  
15020 year's parade of record spending bills, which are triggering  
15021 high inflation. Everyday working Americans in this country  
15022 are going to suffer for all of this excess. And it is not  
15023 going to be pretty. States used to be the laboratories of  
15024 democracy, but following California is not bound to make us  
15025 better, just vulnerable and broke.

15026           I want to take a couple of minutes to put into context  
15027 just how sweeping and reckless the spending is in this

15028 section. Subtitle C spends 32.5 billion for drinking water-  
15029 related matters, most of which is not in rural areas. For  
15030 context, the proposed budget for the entire EPA by this  
15031 President for the upcoming fiscal year is 11.2 billion. So  
15032 this subtitle is spending nearly three times the amount of  
15033 the entire EPA budget.

15034 Section 30301 spends 30 billion in supplemental funding  
15035 for lead pipe replacement under the Drinking Water Revolving  
15036 Loan Fund. This amount is 500 times the existing annual  
15037 authorization for lead pipe replacement. This supplemental  
15038 money is being spent, even though EPA admits it has no idea  
15039 where all the lead pipes are, or how much this whole thing  
15040 might cost. And as we will soon hear, this subtitle gives  
15041 free property upgrades to anyone, regardless of income level.  
15042 This kind of handout to the wealthy is not something we can  
15043 afford with the debt that we have.

15044 Section 30302 provides extra funding that is 20 times  
15045 higher than the current annually-authorized amount.

15046 Section 30303 gives an 80 percent increase in spending  
15047 for implementing the Safe Drinking Water Act.

15048 Section 30304's additional funding is a 400 percent  
15049 increase in the annual authorization for drinking and  
15050 wastewater services in the United States and Mexico.

15051 Section 30305 has two elements to it. It appropriates  
15052 funding at levels that are nearly 700 percent higher than the

15053 annually-authorized amount for these purposes, then it spends  
15054 500 million for a brand new program that is not even  
15055 authorized.

15056       Section 30308 appropriates additional funding at 350  
15057 percent higher levels than the authorized amount.

15058       Section 30309 appropriates additional funding at 1,000  
15059 percent higher than the authorized amount.

15060       Finally, section 30311 re-ups the additional funding for  
15061 the Drinking Water Low-Income Household Assistance Program at  
15062 500 million.

15063       This subtitle also contains many programs that were  
15064 covered in the Senate infrastructure bill.

15065       President Biden made a promise to the Senate negotiators  
15066 that anything that they agreed to in the bill would not be  
15067 added during a partisan reconciliation process. This  
15068 subtitle, along with several other provisions we will  
15069 consider, breaks this promise.

15070       We all support, and have supported, helping people who  
15071 are suffering economically during this pandemic by no fault  
15072 of their own. In this case, I am concerned about this  
15073 program being mismanaged, especially when EPA is avoiding  
15074 questions we have already sent about initial money and how it  
15075 was spent.

15076       Mr. Chairman, I cannot support this language and its  
15077 reckless price tags. I don't want to build more inflation.

15078 Let's win the future at a price tag that makes sense for all  
15079 Americans.

15080 I yield back.

15081 \*The Chairman. I thank the ranking member. Next we go  
15082 to -- Ms. Schakowsky is recognized for five minutes.

15083 \*Ms. Schakowsky. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to  
15084 strike the last word.

15085 \*The Chairman. The gentlewoman is recognized.

15086 \*Ms. Schakowsky. Lead service lines remain a serious  
15087 threat to health and safety of people all around the country.  
15088 In my home state of Illinois, there are more than 680,000  
15089 lead service lines, the most of any state in the entire  
15090 nation. In Chicago, part of which is in my district, there  
15091 are more than 400,000 such lines. This is really  
15092 unacceptable.

15093 But we can do something about it, and we are. This bill  
15094 authorizes \$30 billion in funding to fix this toxic problem.  
15095 Now, I know that it is going to talk -- to cost more down the  
15096 line, and I am hoping that this is just a start. It is time  
15097 that we make this significant investment to finally get lead  
15098 service lines out of the ground, and to -- oh, you need more  
15099 -- okay -- out of the ground, and to protect communities from  
15100 this danger.

15101 The problem cannot be overestimated. The EPA estimates  
15102 that there are more than 9.3 million lead service lines,

15103 nationally. We can't let even one of these lines stay in the  
15104 ground.

15105       While experience tells us that the harms of inaction  
15106 will fall disproportionately on environmental justice  
15107 communities, I want to emphasize that lead lines are  
15108 everywhere, including in some of the suburban communities  
15109 that have aging water systems. We must further invest in our  
15110 nation's drinking water as soon as possible.

15111       And I want to say that lead poisoning can have tragic  
15112 results, and create neurological problems in our children  
15113 that are absolutely irreversible. I have met some of those  
15114 children who are victims of lead poisoning, and this -- there  
15115 is an urgency about this that we need to address.

15116       So I urge my colleagues to support the funding now of  
15117 \$30 billion to consider that, as I said, just a start, and  
15118 end the scourge right now of lead service lines, and get them  
15119 all replaced.

15120       And with that, I yield back my time.

15121       \*The Chairman. I thank the gentlewoman. Anyone on the  
15122 Republican side?

15123       Mr. Latta is recognized for five minutes.

15124       [Pause.]

15125       \*The Chairman. Mr. Latta, did you have your virtual  
15126 hand up?

15127       \*Mr. Latta. Sorry, Mr. Chairman, I needed to take that

15128 down from the last. I am sorry about that.

15129 \*The Chairman. Anyone else on the Republican side?

15130 Anyone at all on either side?

15131 Mrs. Dingell is recognized for five minutes.

15132 \*Mrs. Dingell. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to  
15133 strike the last word.

15134 In the --

15135 \*The Chairman. The gentlewoman is recognized.

15136 \*Mrs. Dingell. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I can't be  
15137 silent tonight, when I am tired as anybody else is. But in  
15138 the midst of this ongoing global pandemic, social and  
15139 economic turmoil, and everything that we are experiencing, we  
15140 can't forget that this nation is facing a real drinking water  
15141 crisis nationwide. If we truly are going to build back  
15142 better, we have got to make significant investments in  
15143 replacing every lead service line in this country,  
15144 eliminating lead in our schools, and helping low-income  
15145 communities ensure water is accessible and affordable.

15146 This week I have had both a chemical spill in my  
15147 district, and the parents of Benton Harbor have looked at me  
15148 and begged me. They have had lead exceedance for three  
15149 straight years. Their children are drinking water with lead.  
15150 It wasn't bad enough we are poisoning the children in Flint,  
15151 we have got to fight for the children of Benton Harbor, and  
15152 the cities across the country that don't even know they are

15153 being poisoned by lead. We test for it in Michigan, and  
15154 these parents just look at me with tears in their eyes and  
15155 say they are depending upon us. We have to do something.

15156 Water, clean drinking water, is a fundamental human  
15157 right that no one should be denied. I am proud of this  
15158 subtitle because, in Michigan, we know what happens when  
15159 children drink water that has lead in it. And there are too  
15160 many communities across the country -- and I don't care where  
15161 they are, they are in every state -- that we need to get the  
15162 lead out of those pipes. This is an opportunity for all of  
15163 us together to make a difference in children's lives, to  
15164 replace lead pipes and service lines across our drinking  
15165 water systems.

15166 And also, it gives 420 million for grants to assist  
15167 schools in the installation and maintenance of lead  
15168 filtration. Our kids shouldn't be drinking water with lead  
15169 in the schools. It gives \$150 million for grants for school  
15170 and child care programs to test for lead, and \$50 million in  
15171 grants for schools for the replacement of school drinking  
15172 water fountains that do contain lead.

15173 There has been a growing strain across this nation on  
15174 households to cover the costs of water bills for far too  
15175 long, and COVID-19 has exasperated that problem. We need to  
15176 do this, my friends. We need to help the states and the  
15177 tribes to assist low-income water customers in reducing

15178 arrearages and water rates for these customers.

15179 I thank everybody who has worked on this, and I know  
15180 there isn't a single member of this committee that wants  
15181 another child to be poisoned by lead in this country, and I  
15182 just beg you to support this amendment because it is so  
15183 critical for the children and adults in this country.

15184 I yield back.

15185 \*The Chairman. Thank you, Mrs. Dingell.

15186 Anyone else? Mr. Bucshon is virtual --

15187 \*Mr. Bucshon. Yes.

15188 \*The Chairman. -- is recognized for five minutes.

15189 \*Mr. Bucshon. I move to strike the last word.

15190 \*The Chairman. The gentleman is recognized.

15191 \*Mr. Bucshon. I just want to say, I mean, I appreciate  
15192 Mrs. Dingell's passion on this issue. But like a lot of  
15193 other issues that we deal with at the Federal level, this is  
15194 the result of decades and decades of mismanagement, in my  
15195 view, at the local level. And now, here we are again,  
15196 bailing state governments and local governments out because  
15197 they mismanaged their systems for decades.

15198 And why did they do that? Because they had to make  
15199 difficult decisions about how to pay for these things at the  
15200 local and state level, and they just don't want to make those  
15201 decisions. That has been true in my district.

15202 Look, I want every lead pipe in the -- America to go --



15203 to be replaced. But we have to recognize that, you know, the  
15204 Federal Government isn't always the end-all, be-all. Most of  
15205 these things should be taken care of by local systems, and  
15206 they should have been doing it for decades. I mean, if you  
15207 buy a car and you never do maintenance for 20 years, what  
15208 happens? And that is what has happened here, in many cases.  
15209 Not all, but many cases.

15210 So here we are again, just like we have done in  
15211 education, we are now -- every student, parent, school of  
15212 higher education just expects us to continue to throw  
15213 hundreds of thousands of dollars, millions and millions of  
15214 dollars at people. And guess where that has gotten us? Now  
15215 the cost of education continues to spiral upward, because  
15216 why? Because we just have a bottomless pit, and we keep  
15217 funding these things, and bailing the local people out,  
15218 including state governments.

15219 And there needs to be more accountability at the local  
15220 and state level for this issue. There is no reason why, when  
15221 local communities and states know that they have lead pipes,  
15222 they shouldn't have been replaced decades ago. And when did  
15223 we take lead out of gasoline, for heaven's sakes? You know,  
15224 when did we take lead out of paint? In the 1970s. How come  
15225 we didn't take it out of our water pipes? Because people  
15226 didn't want to pay for it at the local level.

15227 So, I mean, I hate to be a skeptic here, but, you know,

15228 everything is not the responsibility of the Federal  
15229 Government to address. And I think that is where we are  
15230 going. That is why we continue to call these type of things  
15231 socialist programs, because at some point every person in  
15232 America is going to defend -- depend --

15233 \*Voice. Was lead --

15234 \*Mr. Bucshon. -- on the Federal Government.

15235 \*Voice. -- drinking water.

15236 \*Mr. Bucshon. And we are -- again, do the taxpayers in  
15237 the 8th district of Indiana, that has -- have almost very few  
15238 lead pipes, not want them replaced around the country?  
15239 Sure, they do. But they want local communities and state  
15240 governments to step up, and they want politicians at those  
15241 levels to have the guts to tell their constituents what needs  
15242 to be done.

15243 So, I mean, you know, again, I think it is not that I  
15244 don't support this type of infrastructure because, of course,  
15245 I do. But I just think, if we continue, as a Federal  
15246 Government, to take responsibility for everything in our  
15247 country, and allow local and state political leaders to shirk  
15248 their responsibility because they are afraid to make tough  
15249 decisions, then it is going to get us where we are today, and  
15250 even worse.

15251 Of course, health care is my area, I was a surgeon  
15252 before, and that is what we have done in health care. That

15253 is what we have done in the student loan program. Programs -  
15254 - and look where that has gotten us. Has it controlled the  
15255 costs? Has it made -- gotten things more efficient and  
15256 effective? No, it has done just the opposite.

15257 So what is the next thing, though, local communities and  
15258 state governments are going to want us to fix when they won't  
15259 do it? This is just an example of that. Again, decades of  
15260 mismanagement have led to this problem, and now here we are  
15261 again, you know, passionately promoting the Federal  
15262 Government bailout. I will be a no.

15263 I yield back.

15264 \*The Chairman. All right. Now, we are still speaking  
15265 on the ANS, we haven't even gotten to the amendments. Does  
15266 anyone else want to speak on the ANS, or can we go to -- Mr.  
15267 Schrader?

15268 You are recognized for five minutes.

15269 \*Mr. Schrader. Thank you, Mr. Chair, and I would like  
15270 to be very supportive of drinking water infrastructure in our  
15271 country. As everyone has talked about, it has been grossly  
15272 underfunded, and not kept up to the standards that we would  
15273 like.

15274 I would point out to everyone here today that we already  
15275 have legislation we are going to be voting on here on the  
15276 27th of this month that makes the largest investment in  
15277 American history in infrastructure for drinking water. That

15278 would be the Bipartisan Infrastructure Framework that Problem  
15279 Solvers Caucus started, the Senate picked up, and the  
15280 President has enthusiastically supported. Those are his  
15281 words: biggest investment in drinking water in American  
15282 history. It deals with the lead pipes. It deals with the  
15283 schools, the school issues. This is huge. This is huge.

15284 Could you spend more? You can always spend more. But  
15285 if you are spending the largest amount in American history,  
15286 that would -- according to the fact sheets from the President  
15287 of the United States, the deal makes communities safer, more  
15288 resilient, funds to protect droughts and floods, major  
15289 investments, I mean, it is -- takes care of PFAS, it will  
15290 replace all the nation's lead pipes and service lines. The  
15291 President of the United States. From rural towns to  
15292 struggling cities. This is a huge investment.

15293 Can you do more? I suppose you can always do more.  
15294 But can you afford it, to Mr. Bucshon's question? Probably  
15295 not. We have to make tough choices.

15296 I am proud to support the Bipartisan Infrastructure  
15297 Framework and the \$55 billion they put in, the largest  
15298 investment in American history.

15299 I yield back.

15300 \*The Chairman. Does anyone else want to speak on this?

15301 Mr. -- is there a Republican?

15302 All right, Mr. McNerney seeks recognition. The

15303 gentleman is recognized for five minutes.

15304       \*Mr. McNerney. Well, I thank the chairman. See, this  
15305 legislation under consideration contains important  
15306 investments to support our nation's drinking water  
15307 infrastructure, and will help ensure that everyone has access  
15308 to clean, safe drinking water. That includes funding to  
15309 replace lead service lines, and to address lead in school  
15310 drinking water. We have heard about this.

15311       The latter point is especially important in protecting  
15312 children from exposure to lead, which can damage the brain,  
15313 and the nervous system, and cause other problems with these  
15314 children that will last their whole lives. If we don't pay  
15315 for the pipes, we are going to pay for it later, let me tell  
15316 you.

15317       In California we are experiencing unprecedented extreme  
15318 drought, and we are acutely aware of the importance of having  
15319 access to clean and resilient drinking water. As the drought  
15320 rages on, entire towns in the Valley, in the San Joaquin  
15321 Valley, where my district is, are now completely without  
15322 running water. Often these communities have to make tough  
15323 choices between relying on bottled water or using  
15324 contaminated water. And this is especially true in low-  
15325 income and disadvantaged communities. You know, that is  
15326 completely unacceptable. Clean water is absolutely  
15327 essential.

15328 I applaud the committee's efforts to expand the  
15329 contamination monitoring and mitigation to improve water  
15330 system resilience to natural disasters, which we are going to  
15331 be seeing more of, and ensure low-income customers retain  
15332 access to affordable drinking water.

15333 Now, I know that the ranking member said this is a  
15334 Democratic wish list. And you know what? Our nation's  
15335 infrastructure is crumbling. It is -- you don't need to go  
15336 very far to see that. And so, yes, we wish to improve our  
15337 nation's infrastructure. When you guys had the majority, you  
15338 wished for lower taxes to the wealthiest people in this  
15339 country, and it cost just about the same amount. So who are  
15340 we serving, anyway?

15341 I thank the chairman, and I yield back.

15342 \*The Chairman. Thank you, Mr. McNerney.

15343 Anyone else on the ANS?

15344 All right, we will move to amendments. Are there  
15345 members seeking recognition in order to -- in order to offer  
15346 an amendment to the ANS?

15347 We have some, don't we?

15348 \*Mr. Curtis. Yes, Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at  
15349 the --

15350 \*The Chairman. Mr. Curtis is recognized. Well, Mr.  
15351 Curtis, what is your -- what is the label for your amendment?

15352 \*Mr. Curtis. B3\_05.

15353           \*The Chairman. Does the clerk have that one?

15354           \*The Clerk. Yes, sir.

15355           \*The Chairman. The clerk will report the Curtis  
15356 amendment.

15357           \*The Clerk. Amendment to Subtitle C, offered by Mr.  
15358 Curtis of Utah. At the end of section --

15359           \*The Chairman. Without objection, the reading of the  
15360 Curtis amendment will be dispensed with.

15361           [The amendment of Mr. Curtis follows:]

15362

15363           \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

15364

15365           \*The Chairman. And the gentleman is recognized in  
15366 support of his amendment, the gentleman from Utah.

15367           \*Mr. Curtis. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

15368           My amendment is very simple. It prevents subsidizing  
15369 people who make over a million dollars per year from getting  
15370 government-funded home upgrades. A lead service line has two  
15371 portions: one owned by the municipality, or water system  
15372 that runs from the street into a residential property, then  
15373 the property owner picks up responsibility as it runs into  
15374 their home. Section 30301 spends \$30 billion on replacing  
15375 all portions, both sides of the service line, throughout the  
15376 country.

15377           Section 30301 also does not define lead service line,  
15378 and prohibits use of the funding to replace only a portion of  
15379 the lead service line. This means that any person,  
15380 regardless of income, is guaranteed an upgrade on their  
15381 privately-owned pipes if their water system obtains this  
15382 funding to replace lead service lines. The amendment would  
15383 prevent individuals with adjusted gross incomes of \$1 million  
15384 or more from receiving this benefit to their private  
15385 property.

15386           The overall bill, as has been much talked about,  
15387 includes tax increases, and would increase Federal taxes on  
15388 wealthy Americans, then effectively send some of that money  
15389 back to them to replace their pipes. That doesn't seem very



15390 effective, or the intent of the bill.

15391         Additionally, I would hope somebody making 16 times the  
15392 average medium American income would be able to take care of  
15393 their own property without the Federal Government assisting,  
15394 financially. If my Democratic colleagues believe  
15395 millionaires make enough money to pay higher taxes, I hope  
15396 they believe they can make enough money to take care of their  
15397 own property.

15398         I would urge my colleagues to vote in favor of my  
15399 amendment.

15400         \*The Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Curtis. Mr. Tonko is  
15401 recognized for five minutes.

15402         \*Mr. Tonko. Thank you, Mr. Chair, I move to strike the  
15403 last word.

15404         \*The Chairman. The gentleman is recognized.

15405         \*Mr. Tonko. Thank you. I speak in opposition to the  
15406 amendment, which would unnecessarily complicate the  
15407 distribution of lead service line replacement funding under  
15408 this bill.

15409         This amendment is either unnecessary, dangerous, or  
15410 both. I think it is unnecessary, because we do not need a  
15411 prohibition on the use of these funds to replace lead service  
15412 lines owned by millionaires. Do you know why? Because I  
15413 doubt any millionaires are getting their water from lead  
15414 service lines. The risks of lead service lines have been

15415 known for decades. Homeowners that can easily afford to  
15416 replace their service lines already have. They aren't  
15417 waiting for this funding. It is our low-income communities  
15418 and neighbors, and environmental justice communities that are  
15419 waiting for this funding, and they have been waiting for far  
15420 too long.

15421         So why did I say this amendment might be dangerous?  
15422 Because it is overbroad, and I think it would sweep in multi-  
15423 family residences like apartment buildings, based on the  
15424 income of the owner. Tenants in multi-family residences  
15425 should not be left without safe water or, worse, exposed to  
15426 the risks of partial line replacements because of the income  
15427 of their landlords.

15428         This funding is so important. And, you know, I think it  
15429 is important for us to see this through the lens of our  
15430 children. There has been a lot of talk about the cost of  
15431 doing this program. What is the cost of not doing it?  
15432 Irreversible damage to our children. Is that the America we  
15433 want to promote?

15434         You know, a lot of talk, too, about pointing a finger at  
15435 local governments for having failed to do this. Let's look  
15436 internally. The Federal Government has dropped off  
15437 precipitously over the decades with the support for water  
15438 infrastructure. It is down to a dismal bit of support. So  
15439 if anybody failed to step up to the plate, it was the Federal

15440 partnership.

15441           So this funding is important. Let's do it for our  
15442 children. Let's do the right, compassionate, responsible,  
15443 effective thing, and speak to the needs of our children.  
15444 They are counting on us to do this correctly.

15445           So I urge all of my colleagues to oppose this amendment,  
15446 and support the underlying bill. With that I yield back.

15447           \*The Chairman. Anyone else on the Curtis amendment?  
15448 Mr. Griffith?

15449           \*Mr. Griffith. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like  
15450 to yield my time to Mr. Curtis.

15451           \*The Chairman. Mr. Curtis?

15452           \*Mr. Curtis. Thank you very much. I will take just a  
15453 moment. I am pretty sure this amendment just got called  
15454 dangerous, and I am not sure I see the danger in this.

15455           I will once again brag about being mayor of my city. I  
15456 know for a fact nobody, millionaires or not, replaces their  
15457 pipes going out to the street. It just doesn't happen. And  
15458 I am quite confident that there are plenty of lead pipes  
15459 going to millionaires homes.

15460           And it seems ironic that the very people who blame us  
15461 for wanting to tax the rich are willing to give them a pass  
15462 on this.

15463           I would also like to associate myself with the comments  
15464 of Dr. Bucshon. What do we say to those cities who have made

15465 hard decisions, and have replaced water pipes, and taxed  
15466 their residents to do that?

15467 I am not a constitutional expert, but I can't find our  
15468 constitutional responsibility for water pipes in the  
15469 Constitution at the Federal Government level.

15470 Dr. Bucshon asked what is next. I can predict. It is  
15471 their sewer systems that they are going to need help with,  
15472 and their city roads, and their county roads. It is endless.  
15473 As a mayor, I know, those ends are -- those needs are  
15474 endless. I would love to have help, but at the end of the  
15475 day it is the responsibilities of cities and counties and  
15476 state governments.

15477 I yield my time.

15478 \*Mr. Griffith. And, Mr. Chairman, I would further say,  
15479 in addition to Mr. Curtis's comments, that it is my  
15480 understanding the EPA doesn't know where all of the lead  
15481 pipes are. So that means that there is a likelihood that the  
15482 owners don't necessarily know where the lead pipes are,  
15483 either. And therefore, even if you have a million dollars,  
15484 you may not have replaced them, because you may not know you  
15485 have lead pipes.

15486 I yield back.

15487 \*Mr. Mullin. Hey, will you yield to me? This is  
15488 Markwayne.

15489 \*Mr. Griffith. I gladly yield to Mr. Expert on This

15490 Mullin.

15491       \*Mr. Mullin. Yes, I just kind of want to bring it up.  
15492 I hear the Democrats talking about lead piping for drinking  
15493 water.

15494       And I just want to use the fact that in 1858, 1859, it  
15495 became widely known that lead was a poison, and was  
15496 recommended not to be used. In 1920 it was recommended not  
15497 to use it at all in the plumbing system. In 1928, a lobbying  
15498 firm for the Lead Association went out and started lobbying  
15499 to keep it around, and it started being used almost  
15500 exclusively for sewer systems. It hasn't been used at all in  
15501 water systems, even with plumbing fittings, since 1991.

15502       As far as piping goes, you are not going to find it in  
15503 any systems. You are not going to find it in a distribution  
15504 system. You might find it in municipalities, but you are not  
15505 going to find it in a building. You are not going to find it  
15506 in a house. You are not going to find it in service lines.  
15507 Why? Because they have all had leaks, and they have all  
15508 been repaired if they were put in in the 1800s.

15509       So all this talk about the millionaires, and about the  
15510 individuals, and about the children, and to the school  
15511 systems, your drinking system, your drinking piping, isn't  
15512 lead. A few of the fittings may be, a little bit of it, but,  
15513 like I said, it hasn't been in there since 1991. We wasn't  
15514 even allowed to use it, and a fitting wasn't allowed to be

15515 produced with any lead since then.

15516           So I hear people pulling at strings, pulling at people,  
15517 talking about millionaires, talking about millionaires and  
15518 everything else, but it goes back to what Bucshon says. It  
15519 is going to be a bailout for cities, municipalities that  
15520 hasn't done it right, because there isn't a house, a school,  
15521 or a building that is overran with lead. It is  
15522 municipalities that has neglected their systems, and not  
15523 replaced them.

15524           With that I will yield my time back.

15525           \*Mr. Griffith. And I yield back, Mr. Chairman.

15526           \*The Chairman. Anyone else who is looking to speak on  
15527 the --

15528           \*Mr. Cardenas. Cardenas.

15529           \*The Chairman. -- Curtis amendment?

15530           \*Mr. Cardenas. Mr. --

15531           \*The Chairman. Mr. Cardenas is --

15532           \*Mr. Cardenas. Recognize --

15533           \*The Chairman. Cardenas is recognized for five minutes.

15534           \*Mr. Cardenas. I move to -- ask to be recognized to  
15535 strike the last word. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate  
15536 being recognized.

15537           Markwayne -- I am sorry, Congressman Mullin, thank you  
15538 so much. You are very accurate on that. But there is just  
15539 one little thing that I wanted to add to that.

15540           You did point out that there are likely not vast amounts  
15541 of lead in systems. You mentioned that it might be in  
15542 fittings, or what have you. But the fact of the matter to a  
15543 child 3, 5, 7, 10 years old, or what have you, all it takes  
15544 is small, small, small traces of lead to negatively affect  
15545 their brain capacity. And that is something that I just  
15546 wanted to point out.

15547           A lot of accuracy in what you said, and you are on  
15548 point. Thank you so much for helping to educate those of us  
15549 who didn't know those break points, and dates, and things of  
15550 that nature. I take it as fact, and I appreciate it. But I  
15551 just wanted to point out that those small traces do, in fact,  
15552 create damaging effects on children's brains and their  
15553 ability to learn for the rest of their lives. So this is  
15554 something that is serious.

15555           And even though small traces need to be -- we need to do  
15556 everything that we can, and help local government to do their  
15557 job. Because unfortunately, when adults don't do their job,  
15558 mayors, council members, et cetera, water districts don't  
15559 assist, or encourage, or get people to do the right thing --  
15560 and children aren't in the position to make those decisions,  
15561 they are just subjected to the lack of good decisions of the  
15562 adults around them. So --

15563           \*Mr. Mullin. Will the gentleman yield, just a second?

15564           \*Ms. DeGette. Will the gentleman yield?

15565           \*Mr. Cardenas. I --

15566           \*Ms. DeGette. Will the gentleman yield to DeGette?

15567           \*Mr. Cardenas. I will cede a little bit of time to Mr.  
15568 Mullin, and then I will go to you, Ms. DeGette.

15569           Go ahead.

15570           \*Mr. Mullin. I just want to make a point of reference  
15571 here. I am probably the only licensed operator for water and  
15572 wastewater systems on the committee. And you are going to  
15573 have a trace of lead in water, because it is a natural  
15574 occurrence. And the only way to get it out is by using a  
15575 chemical. So you have the natural, or you can introduce a  
15576 chemical, but there is always going to be a small trace,  
15577 because it is a natural occurrence. It is a natural metal,  
15578 it is a natural part of the ground.

15579           So I just want to throw -- you can take spring water  
15580 that is running from the best aquifer underground and measure  
15581 it, and you are still going to have a trace of lead in it.

15582           With that I will yield back.

15583           \*Mr. Cardenas. Thank you, once again, and I appreciate  
15584 that reminder, and that education on that point.

15585           But I also do want to point out that natural trace of  
15586 lead, you are absolutely right. But man-made opportunities  
15587 for lead to get into drinking water of children is, in fact,  
15588 an issue to this day, even in America.

15589           Diane -- excuse me, Congresswoman DeGette, I will yield



15590 to you.

15591           \*Ms. DeGette. I thank the gentleman. I just want to  
15592 point out that, while what Mr. Mullin may say is -- may be  
15593 true in his community, in my urban community in Denver,  
15594 Colorado we have lead pipes throughout the city, including a  
15595 couple of years ago they learned the pipes into my home,  
15596 which is not in a poor area of Denver, it is in a fairly  
15597 affluent area of Denver, my home is serviced by lead pipes,  
15598 and my home, current home, was built on an old site. My  
15599 current home was built in 1992, but yet the pipes into my  
15600 home, into all the homes in my neighborhood, and to most of  
15601 the homes in Denver, Colorado, including in the poor areas  
15602 and in the low-income communities and the environmental  
15603 justice communities, all of those homes were serviced by lead  
15604 pipes. And we are now undertaking a massive effort to  
15605 replace these pipes. And this is true, not just in urban  
15606 areas around the country, but also in many rural areas.

15607           So it -- so maybe the -- maybe it is just fittings in a  
15608 few places, but in many -- for many, many millions of  
15609 Americans, their children are being impacted by the lead  
15610 coming through their pipes.

15611           And I want to thank Mr. Cardenas, and yield back to him.

15612           \*Mr. Cardenas. Thank you, Congresswoman DeGette.

15613           And I will just close by just reminding everybody that  
15614 those of us who were in local government, especially on local

15615 city councils or counties, there are always rubber-meets-the-  
15616 road issues that we would love to address, but there was  
15617 never enough funding for us to grab out there, and do the  
15618 right thing, and do the things that we identified that needed  
15619 to be done for our constituents.

15620         So any time that we can get into those local governments  
15621 to try to help them do the responsible thing and the right  
15622 thing sooner than later, especially when it comes to lead, we  
15623 are going to have children better off for it. And as one of  
15624 my colleagues said earlier, the cost of not doing something  
15625 to deny a child to bring capacity because we passed up this  
15626 opportunity is just -- would be unfortunate.

15627         So it looks like my time is about to expire. Thank you,  
15628 Mr. Chairman.

15629         \*The Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Cardenas. The ranking  
15630 member is recognized for five minutes.

15631         \*Mrs. Rodgers. Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

15632         Just to clarify, and to join in support of this  
15633 amendment, we are in favor of replacing lead pipelines. And  
15634 in fact, I mentioned that Mr. McKinley and I have been  
15635 leading on legislation, Drinking Water Funding for the Future  
15636 Act, which reauthorizes most of the programs within Subtitle  
15637 C. We want our children to be protected, absolutely. We  
15638 would never want our children to be exposed to lead that  
15639 would damage them.

15640           What we are proposing in this amendment is that, for the  
15641 Federal Government to get involved, we will join -- the  
15642 Federal Government would be a part of replacing lead pipes up  
15643 to this -- between the street and the property line. If the  
15644 property line goes to a place, a home, a property that is  
15645 over \$1 million in value, that they would be responsible for  
15646 replacing their own pipes, that this is a -- that we do not  
15647 have unlimited money, even though I know we are printing a  
15648 lot of money right now.

15649           We all have to set priorities, and the priority should  
15650 be to the areas that have the biggest needs, and to actually  
15651 the areas that are low-income, and not replacing pipes for  
15652 millionaires. That is the amendment, and I urge support.

15653           \*The Chairman. Anyone else want to speak on this  
15654 amendment, the Curtis amendment?

15655           If not, we will proceed to a -- recorded vote, I assume?

15656           \*Mrs. Rodgers. Yes, please.

15657           \*The Chairman. A recorded vote is ordered on the Curtis  
15658 amendment. Those in favor of the amendment will say aye,  
15659 those opposed will say no, and the clerk shall call the roll.

15660           \*The Clerk. Mr. Rush?

15661           \*Mr. Rush. Rush votes no.

15662           \*The Clerk. Mr. Rush, I can't see you. Can you repeat  
15663 your vote?

15664           \*Mr. Rush. Rush votes no.

15665           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Rush votes no.  
15666           Ms. Eshoo?  
15667           [No response.]  
15668           \*The Clerk.   Ms. DeGette?  
15669           \*Ms. DeGette.   DeGette votes no.  
15670           \*The Clerk.   Ms. DeGette votes no.  
15671           Mr. Doyle?  
15672           [No response.]  
15673           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Schakowsky?  
15674           \*Ms. Schakowsky.   Schakowsky votes no.  
15675           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Schakowsky votes no.  
15676           Mr. Butterfield?  
15677           \*Mr. Butterfield.   Good morning.   Butterfield votes no.  
15678           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Butterfield votes no.  
15679           Ms. Matsui?  
15680           \*Ms. Matsui.   Matsui votes no.  
15681           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Matsui votes no.  
15682           Ms. Castor?  
15683           \*Ms. Castor.   Votes no.  
15684           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Castor votes no.  
15685           Mr. Sarbanes?  
15686           \*Mr. Sarbanes.   Sarbanes votes no.  
15687           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Sarbanes votes no.  
15688           Mr. McNerney?  
15689           \*Mr. McNerney.   McNerney votes no.

15690           \*The Clerk.   Mr. McNerney votes no.  
15691           Mr. Welch?  
15692           \*Mr. Welch.   Mr. Welch votes no.  
15693           [Pause.]  
15694           \*Mr. Welch.   Mr. Welch votes no.  
15695           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Welch votes no.  
15696           Mr. Tonko?  
15697           \*Mr. Tonko.   Tonko from New York votes no.  
15698           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Tonko votes no.  
15699           Ms. Clarke?  
15700           \*Ms. Clarke.   Clarke from New York votes no.  
15701           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Clarke votes no.  
15702           Mr. Schrader?  
15703           \*Mr. Schrader.   Schrader from Oregon votes no.  
15704           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Schrader votes no.  
15705           Mr. Cardenas?  
15706           \*Mr. Cardenas.   Cardenas from California votes no.  
15707           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Cardenas votes no.  
15708           Mr. Ruiz?  
15709           \*Mr. Ruiz.    Ruiz votes no.  
15710           [Pause.]  
15711           \*Mr. Ruiz.    Ruiz votes --  
15712           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Ruiz votes --  
15713           \*Mr. Ruiz.    -- no.  
15714           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Ruiz votes no.

15715 Mr. Peters?

15716 \*Mr. Peters. [Inaudible.]

15717 \*The Clerk. Mr. Peters votes no.

15718 Mrs. Dingell?

15719 \*Mrs. Dingell. Dingell votes no.

15720 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell votes no.

15721 Mr. Veasey?

15722 \*Mr. Veasey. Veasey votes no.

15723 \*The Clerk. Mr. Veasey votes no.

15724 Ms. Kuster?

15725 \*Ms. Kuster. Kuster votes no.

15726 \*The Clerk. Ms. Kuster votes no.

15727 Ms. Kelly?

15728 [No response.]

15729 \*The Clerk. Ms. Barragan?

15730 \*Ms. Barragan. Barragan votes no.

15731 \*The Clerk. Ms. Barragan votes no.

15732 Mr. McEachin?

15733 \*Mr. McEachin. McEachin votes no.

15734 \*The Clerk. Mr. McEachin votes no.

15735 Ms. Blunt Rochester?

15736 \*Ms. Blunt Rochester. Blunt Rochester of Delaware votes

15737 no.

15738 \*The Clerk. Ms. Blunt Rochester votes no.

15739 Mr. Soto?

15740 \*Mr. Soto. [Inaudible.]  
15741 \*The Clerk. Mr. Soto votes no.  
15742 Mr. O'Halleran?  
15743 \*Mr. O'Halleran. O'Halleran votes no.  
15744 \*The Clerk. Mr. O'Halleran votes no.  
15745 Miss Rice?  
15746 \*Miss Rice. [Inaudible.]  
15747 \*The Clerk. Miss Rice votes no.  
15748 Ms. Craig?  
15749 \*Ms. Craig. Craig of Minnesota votes no.  
15750 \*The Clerk. Ms. Craig votes no.  
15751 Ms. Schrier?  
15752 \*Ms. Schrier. Schrier votes no.  
15753 \*The Clerk. Ms. Schrier votes no.  
15754 Mrs. Trahan?  
15755 [No response.]  
15756 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher?  
15757 \*Mrs. Fletcher. Fletcher votes no.  
15758 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher votes no.  
15759 Mrs. Rodgers?  
15760 \*Mrs. Rodgers. [Inaudible.]  
15761 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Rodgers votes aye.  
15762 Mr. Upton?  
15763 \*Mr. Upton. Good morning. Mr. Upton votes aye  
15764 \*The Clerk. Mr. Upton votes aye.

15765 Mr. Burgess?

15766 \*Mr. Burgess. Burgess votes aye.

15767 \*The Clerk. Mr. Burgess votes aye.

15768 Mr. Scalise?

15769 \*Mr. Scalise. Scalise votes aye.

15770 \*The Clerk. Mr. Scalise votes aye.

15771 Mr. Latta?

15772 \*Mr. Latta. Latta votes aye.

15773 \*The Clerk. Mr. Latta votes aye.

15774 Mr. Guthrie?

15775 \*Mr. Guthrie. Guthrie votes aye.

15776 \*The Clerk. Mr. Guthrie votes aye.

15777 Mr. McKinley?

15778 \*Mr. McKinley. Aye.

15779 \*The Clerk. Mr. McKinley votes aye.

15780 Mr. Kinzinger?

15781 \*Mr. Kinzinger. Kinzinger, aye.

15782 \*The Clerk. Mr. Kinzinger votes aye.

15783 Mr. Griffith?

15784 \*Mr. Griffith. Aye.

15785 \*The Clerk. Mr. Griffith votes aye.

15786 Mr. Bilirakis?

15787 \*Mr. Bilirakis. Aye.

15788 \*The Clerk. Mr. Bilirakis votes aye.

15789 Mr. Johnson?



15790 \*Mr. Johnson. Johnson votes aye.  
15791 \*The Clerk. Mr. Johnson votes aye.  
15792 Mr. Long?  
15793 [No response.]  
15794 \*The Clerk. Mr. Bucshon?  
15795 \*Mr. Bucshon. Bucshon from Indiana votes aye.  
15796 \*The Clerk. Mr. Bucshon votes aye.  
15797 Mr. Mullin?  
15798 \*Mr. Mullin. Votes aye.  
15799 \*The Clerk. Mr. Mullin votes aye.  
15800 Mr. Hudson?  
15801 \*Mr. Hudson. Hudson of North Carolina votes aye.  
15802 \*The Clerk. Mr. Hudson votes aye.  
15803 Mr. Walberg?  
15804 \*Mr. Walberg. Walberg votes aye.  
15805 \*The Clerk. Mr. Walberg votes aye.  
15806 Mr. Carter?  
15807 \*Mr. Carter. Carter from Georgia votes aye.  
15808 \*The Clerk. Mr. Carter votes aye.  
15809 Mr. Duncan?  
15810 [No response.]  
15811 \*The Clerk. Mr. Palmer?  
15812 \*Mr. Palmer. Palmer votes aye.  
15813 \*The Clerk. Mr. Palmer votes aye.  
15814 Mr. Dunn?

15815           \*Mr. Dunn.   Mr. Dunn of Florida votes aye.  
15816           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Dunn votes aye.  
15817           Mr. Curtis?  
15818           \*Mr. Curtis.   Curtis votes aye.  
15819           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Curtis votes aye.  
15820           Mrs. Lesko?  
15821           \*Mrs. Lesko.   Lesko votes aye.  
15822           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Lesko votes aye.  
15823           Mr. Pence?  
15824           \*Mr. Pence.   Pence from Indiana votes aye.  
15825           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Pence votes aye.  
15826           Mr. Crenshaw?  
15827           \*Mr. Crenshaw.   Crenshaw votes aye.  
15828           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Crenshaw votes aye.  
15829           Mr. Joyce?  
15830           \*Mr. Joyce.   Joyce from Pennsylvania votes aye.  
15831           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Joyce votes aye.  
15832           Mr. Armstrong?  
15833           \*Mr. Armstrong.   Armstrong votes yes.  
15834           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Armstrong votes aye.  
15835           Mr. Pallone?  
15836           \*The Chairman.   Pallone from New Jersey votes no.  
15837           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Pallone votes no.  
15838           \*The Chairman.   I know we have some, a few, that haven't  
15839   voted.

15840 Ms. Eshoo?

15841 \*Ms. Eshoo. Eshoo of California votes no.

15842 \*The Chairman. Mr. Doyle?

15843 \*The Clerk. Ms. --

15844 \*The Chairman. I see --

15845 \*The Clerk. Ms. Eshoo votes no.

15846 \*Mr. Doyle. Doyle votes no.

15847 \*The Chairman. Mr. --

15848 \*The Clerk. Mr. Doyle votes no.

15849 \*The Chairman. Mr. Duncan?

15850 [No response.]

15851 \*The Chairman. Mrs. Trahan?

15852 \*Mrs. Trahan. Trahan votes no.

15853 \*The Chairman. Mr. Long?

15854 [No response.]

15855 \*The Chairman. Anyone that we missed that wants to

15856 vote?

15857 All right, on the Curtis amendment the clerk will report

15858 the tally.

15859 \*The Clerk. On that vote, Mr. Chairman, the yeas were

15860 24 and the nays were 31.

15861 \*The Chairman. On the Curtis amendment the vote was 24

15862 yeas to 31 noes, the amendment is not agreed to.

15863 Are there further amendments to the amendment in the

15864 nature of a substitute?

15865           Hearing none, okay, then we will go to the ANS, and do  
15866   that by voice, I think. The -- we will proceed to a vote on  
15867   the amendment in the nature of a substitute to the committee  
15868   print Subtitle C: Budget Reconciliation Legislative  
15869   Recommendations Related to Drinking Water.

15870           All those in favor of the amendment in the nature of a  
15871   substitute to the committee print Subtitle C: Budget  
15872   Reconciliation Legislative Recommendations Relating to  
15873   Drinking Water will signify by saying aye.

15874           All those opposed will say no.

15875           In the opinion of the chair, the ayes have it.

15876           And now we are going to go to -- well, the amendment in  
15877   the nature of a substitute to the committee print Subtitle C:  
15878   Budget Reconciliation Legislative Recommendations Related to  
15879   Drinking Water is agreed to. So now we will go to final  
15880   passage.

15881           The question now occurs on approval and transmitting to  
15882   the Committee on Budget the committee print Subtitle C:  
15883   Budget Reconciliation Legislative Recommendations Relating to  
15884   Drinking Water, as amended.

15885           I move the committee do now approve and transmit the  
15886   recommendations of this Committee, and all appropriate  
15887   accompanying material, including additional, supplemental,  
15888   minority, or dissenting views to the House Committee on the  
15889   Budget, in order to comply with the reconciliation directive

15890 included in Section 2002 of the concurrent resolution on the  
15891 budget for fiscal year 2022, S.Con.Res. 14, and consistent  
15892 with section 310 of the Congressional Budget and Impoundment  
15893 Control Act of 1974.

15894 So all those in favor -- this is final passage of the  
15895 drinking water title -- all those in favor will -- I am  
15896 sorry, we are going to do this by a recorded vote.

15897 A recorded vote is ordered. All those in favor will  
15898 signify by saying aye, those opposed will say no, and the  
15899 clerk shall call the roll.

15900 \*The Clerk. Mr. Rush?

15901 \*Mr. Rush. Rush of Illinois votes aye.

15902 \*The Clerk. Mr. Rush votes aye.

15903 Ms. Eshoo?

15904 \*Ms. Eshoo. Aye.

15905 \*The Clerk. Ms. Eshoo votes aye.

15906 Ms. DeGette?

15907 \*Ms. DeGette. DeGette votes aye.

15908 \*The Clerk. Ms. DeGette, could you repeat that? I  
15909 couldn't see you.

15910 \*Ms. DeGette. Yes, DeGette votes aye.

15911 \*The Clerk. Ms. DeGette votes aye.

15912 Mr. Doyle?

15913 \*Mr. Doyle. Doyle votes aye.

15914 \*The Clerk. Mr. Doyle votes aye.

15915 Ms. Schakowsky?

15916 \*Ms. Schakowsky. Schakowsky votes aye.

15917 \*The Clerk. Ms. Schakowsky votes aye.

15918 Mr. Butterfield?

15919 \*Mr. Butterfield. Votes aye.

15920 \*The Clerk. Mr. Butterfield votes aye.

15921 Ms. Matsui?

15922 \*Ms. Matsui. Matsui votes aye.

15923 \*The Clerk. Ms. Matsui votes aye.

15924 Ms. Castor?

15925 \*Ms. Castor. Castor votes aye.

15926 \*The Clerk. Ms. Castor votes aye.

15927 Mr. Sarbanes?

15928 \*Mr. Sarbanes. Sarbanes votes aye.

15929 \*The Clerk. Mr. Sarbanes votes aye.

15930 Mr. McNerney?

15931 \*Mr. McNerney. McNerney votes aye.

15932 \*The Clerk. Mr. McNerney votes aye.

15933 Mr. Welch?

15934 \*Mr. Welch. Mr. Welch votes aye.

15935 \*The Clerk. Mr. Welch votes aye.

15936 Mr. Tonko?

15937 \*Mr. Tonko. Tonko from New York votes aye.

15938 \*The Clerk. Mr. Tonko votes aye.

15939 Ms. Clarke?

15940           \*Ms. Clarke. [Inaudible.]  
15941           \*The Clerk. Ms. Clarke votes aye.  
15942           Mr. Schrader?  
15943           \*Mr. Schrader. Schrader from Oregon votes no.  
15944           \*The Clerk. Mr. Schrader votes no.  
15945           Mr. Cardenas?  
15946           \*Mr. Cardenas. Cardenas, representing California, votes  
15947    aye.  
15948           \*The Clerk. Mr. Cardenas votes aye.  
15949           Mr. Ruiz?  
15950           \*Mr. Ruiz. Ruiz votes aye.  
15951           \*The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz votes aye.  
15952           Mr. Peters?  
15953           \*Mr. Peters. Votes aye.  
15954           \*The Clerk. Mr. Peters votes aye.  
15955           Mrs. Dingell?  
15956           \*Mrs. Dingell. Dingell says good morning, and votes  
15957    aye.  
15958           \*The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell votes aye.  
15959           Mr. Veasey?  
15960           \*Mr. Veasey. Veasey votes aye.  
15961           \*The Clerk. Mr. Veasey votes aye.  
15962           Ms. Kuster?  
15963           \*Ms. Kuster. Aye.  
15964           \*The Clerk. Ms. Kuster votes aye.

15965 Ms. Kelly?

15966 \*Ms. Kelly. Kelly votes aye.

15967 \*The Clerk. Ms. Kelly, could you repeat your vote? I

15968 couldn't see you.

15969 \*Ms. Kelly. Kelly votes aye.

15970 \*The Clerk. Ms. Kelly votes aye.

15971 Ms. Barragan?

15972 \*Ms. Barragan. Barragan votes aye.

15973 \*The Clerk. Ms. Barragan votes aye.

15974 Mr. McEachin?

15975 \*Mr. McEachin. McEachin votes aye.

15976 \*The Clerk. Mr. McEachin votes aye.

15977 Ms. Blunt Rochester?

15978 \*Ms. Blunt Rochester. Blunt votes aye.

15979 \*The Clerk. Ms. Blunt Rochester votes aye.

15980 Mr. Soto?

15981 \*Mr. Soto. Soto votes aye.

15982 \*The Clerk. Mr. Soto votes aye.

15983 Mr. O'Halleran?

15984 \*Mr. O'Halleran. O'Halleran votes aye.

15985 \*The Clerk. Mr. O'Halleran votes aye.

15986 Miss Rice?

15987 \*Miss Rice. [Inaudible.]

15988 \*The Clerk. Miss Rice votes aye.

15989 Ms. Craig?



15990 \*Ms. Craig. Ms. Craig of Minnesota votes aye.  
15991 \*The Clerk. Ms. Craig votes aye.  
15992 Ms. Schrier?  
15993 \*Ms. Schrier. Schrier votes aye.  
15994 \*The Clerk. Ms. Schrier votes aye.  
15995 Mrs. Trahan?  
15996 \*Mrs. Trahan. Trahan votes aye.  
15997 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan votes aye.  
15998 Mrs. Fletcher?  
15999 \*Mrs. Fletcher. Fletcher votes aye.  
16000 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher votes aye.  
16001 Mrs. Rodgers?  
16002 \*Mrs. Rodgers. [Inaudible.]  
16003 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Rodgers votes no.  
16004 Mr. Upton?  
16005 \*Mr. Upton. Upton votes no.  
16006 \*The Clerk. Mr. Upton votes no.  
16007 Mr. Burgess?  
16008 \*Mr. Burgess. Votes no.  
16009 \*The Clerk. Mr. Burgess votes no.  
16010 Mr. Scalise?  
16011 \*Mr. Scalise. Mr. Scalise votes no.  
16012 \*The Clerk. Mr. Scalise votes no.  
16013 Mr. Latta?  
16014 \*Mr. Latta. Latta votes no.

16015           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Latta votes no.  
16016           Mr. Guthrie?  
16017           \*Mr. Guthrie.   Guthrie votes no.  
16018           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Guthrie votes no.  
16019           Mr. McKinley?  
16020           \*Mr. McKinley.   [Inaudible.]  
16021           \*The Clerk.   Mr. McKinley votes no.  
16022           Mr. Kinzinger?  
16023           \*Mr. Kinzinger.   Kinzinger is no.  
16024           [Pause.]  
16025           \*Mr. Kinzinger.   Kinzinger, no.  
16026           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Kinzinger votes no.  
16027           Mr. Griffith?  
16028           \*Mr. Griffith.   No.  
16029           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Griffith votes no.  
16030           Mr. Bilirakis?  
16031           \*Mr. Bilirakis.   No.  
16032           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Bilirakis votes no.  
16033           Mr. Johnson?  
16034           \*Mr. Johnson.   Johnson votes no.  
16035           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Johnson votes no.  
16036           Mr. Long?  
16037           [No response.]  
16038           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Bucshon?  
16039           \*Mr. Bucshon.   Bucshon from Indiana votes no.

16040           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Bucshon votes no.  
16041           Mr. Mullin?  
16042           \*Mr. Mullin.   No.  
16043           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Mullin votes no.  
16044           Mr. Hudson?  
16045           \*Mr. Hudson.   Hudson of North Carolina votes --  
16046           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Hudson, could you repeat your vote?  
16047           \*Mr. Hudson.   Hudson of North Carolina votes no.  
16048           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Hudson votes no.  
16049           Mr. Walberg?  
16050           \*Mr. Walberg.   Mr. Walberg votes no.  
16051           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Walberg votes no.  
16052           Mr. Carter?  
16053           \*Mr. Carter.   Carter from Georgia votes no.  
16054           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Carter votes no.  
16055           Mr. Duncan?  
16056           [No response.]  
16057           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Palmer?  
16058           \*Mr. Palmer.   Palmer votes no.  
16059           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Palmer votes no.  
16060           Mr. Dunn?  
16061           \*Mr. Dunn.   Mr. Dunn of Florida votes no.  
16062           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Dunn votes no.  
16063           Mr. Curtis?  
16064           \*Mr. Curtis.   Curtis votes no.

16065           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Curtis votes no.  
16066           Mrs. Lesko?  
16067           \*Mrs. Lesko.   Lesko votes no.  
16068           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Lesko votes no.  
16069           Mr. Pence?  
16070           \*Mr. Pence.   Pence from Indiana votes no.  
16071           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Pence votes no.  
16072           Mr. Crenshaw?  
16073           \*Mr. Crenshaw.   Crenshaw --  
16074           \*Mr. Rush.    Yes, it is --  
16075           \*Mr. Crenshaw.   Crenshaw votes no.  
16076           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Crenshaw votes no.  
16077           Mr. Joyce?  
16078           \*Mr. Joyce.   Joyce from Pennsylvania votes no.  
16079           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Joyce votes no.  
16080           Mr. Armstrong?  
16081           \*Mr. Armstrong.   Armstrong votes no.  
16082           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Armstrong votes no.  
16083           Mr. Pallone?  
16084           \*The Chairman.   Pallone from New Jersey votes aye.  
16085           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Pallone votes aye.  
16086           \*The Chairman.   And do we have anyone who hasn't voted  
16087   who would like to?  
16088           No?   All right.   Then the clerk will report the tally  
16089   on the final passage of the drinking water title, Subtitle C.

16090           \*The Clerk. On that vote, Mr. Chairman, the yeas are 31  
16091 and the nays are 25.

16092           \*The Chairman. Twenty-five? So the vote was 31 ayes  
16093 to 25 noes.

16094           Yes? Go ahead.

16095           \*Mrs. Rodgers. Mr. Chair, I plan to file views, and  
16096 request the usual number of days.

16097           \*The Chairman. Yes, without objection, so ordered.

16098           The committee has approved the committee print, Subtitle  
16099 C: Budget Reconciliation Legislative Recommendations  
16100 Relating to Drinking Water, as amended, and ordered the  
16101 legislative recommendations transmitted to the Committee on  
16102 Budget.

16103           So we are going to do one more title tonight, and that  
16104 is the energy title.

16105           The chair calls up the committee print, Subtitle D:  
16106 Budget Reconciliation Legislative Recommendations Relating to  
16107 Energy. The clerk will report the title of the bill.

16108           \*The Clerk. Committee print to Budget Reconciliation  
16109 Legislative Recommendations Relating to Energy, Subtitle D,  
16110 Energy --

16111           \*The Chairman. Without objection, Madam Clerk, the  
16112 first reading of the bill will be dispensed with. The bill  
16113 is now considered as read.

16114           And, without objection, the bill is considered as read,

16115 and open for amendment at any point.

16116 [The bill follows:]

16117

16118 \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

16119

16120           \*The Chairman. Is there --

16121           \*Voice. Mr. Chairman?

16122           \*The Chairman. Who is doing the ANS, Mr. Rush?

16123           I recognize Mr. Rush to offer an amendment in the nature  
16124 of a substitute.

16125           \*Mr. Rush. Mr. Chairman, I want to -- I have an  
16126 amendment in the nature of a substitute for Subtitle D at the  
16127 desk. It is D\_01.

16128           \*The Chairman. Does the clerk have the ANS?

16129           \*The Clerk. Yes, sir.

16130           \*The Chairman. The clerk will report the amendment.

16131           \*The Clerk. Amendment in the nature of a substitute to  
16132 committee print for subtitle D, offered by Mr. Rush of  
16133 Illinois.

16134           \*The Chairman. Madam Clerk, without objection, the  
16135 reading of the amendment by Mr. Rush will be dispensed with.

16136           [The amendment of Mr. Rush follows:]

16137

16138           \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

16139

16140           \*The Chairman. And the gentleman from Illinois is now  
16141 recognized for five minutes.

16142           \*Mr. Rush. Thank you, Mr. Chair. Subtitle D -- vital  
16143 investments that are critical to President Biden's Build Back  
16144 Better agenda. It includes funding -- Clean Electricity  
16145 Performance Program, a program that provides resources to  
16146 decarbonize our electricity sector. It contains billions of  
16147 dollars of rebates for Americans, homeowners, to retrofit  
16148 their home in order to reduce energy costs. And also, it  
16149 invests in the weatherization assistance program so that low-  
16150 income homeowners must not be left out of the energy  
16151 efficiency revolution.

16152           This subtitle also includes some vital provisions for my  
16153 NO EXHAUST Act, to ensure that all communities have the  
16154 resources that they need to embrace an electric vehicle  
16155 future.

16156           Finally, it contains funds to revitalize our electric  
16157 grid that will be the backbone of our 21st century clean  
16158 energy economy.

16159           Individually, each of these investments would be  
16160 invaluable. Together, they are transformative. They will  
16161 help our country advance in the fight against the climate  
16162 crisis. At the same time, they create millions of jobs,  
16163 ensuring that every American has access to the technologies  
16164 that will drive our economy for the next 100 years.



16165           Critically, the bill before us today makes these  
16166 investments in an equitable and honorable way. It includes  
16167 \$1 billion to fund projects to deploy electric vehicle  
16168 infrastructure in underserved or disadvantaged communities.  
16169 It also provides for \$5.5 billion to fund home  
16170 electrification projects in low-income and tribal households.

16171           Finally, it is worth reiterating, Mr. Chairman, that  
16172 this package includes \$3.5 million for the Weatherization  
16173 Assistance Program, which reduces energy costs for low-income  
16174 households.

16175           These investments are what we need to truly and  
16176 equitably build back better, and build back equitably. But  
16177 even with these, more work needs to be done. A recent USA  
16178 Today article entitled, "Jobs in the Green Energy Field" --  
16179 "Jobs in Green Energy Filled with White Men," encapsulates  
16180 the urgency of ensuring that the impact of these policies  
16181 reach Black and Brown Americans. The article cites a  
16182 concerning report published just last week, showing that  
16183 women and Black workers are vastly under-represented in the  
16184 clean energy workforce.

16185           While there -- could not be included in today's package,  
16186 I look forward to working with the chairman and the ranking  
16187 member to swiftly pass vital investments in energy workforce  
16188 development to increase the diversity of the energy sector,  
16189 including through my Blue to Green -- the Green Collar Jobs

16190 Development Act.

16191 Mr. Chairman, for now the bill before us contains  
16192 needed-investment for the American people. My amendment in  
16193 the nature of a substitute simply makes technical changes to  
16194 the bill, and I encourage every member of this committee to  
16195 vote for this amendment, as well as for the underlying bill.

16196 And I yield back.

16197 \*The Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Rush.

16198 Who would --

16199 \*Mr. Burgess. Mr. Chairman?

16200 \*Mr. Upton. Mr. Chairman?

16201 \*Mr. Burgess. Mr. Chairman, Burgess here.

16202 \*Voice. I think Mr. Upton --

16203 \*The Chairman. Mr. Upton is recognized for five  
16204 minutes.

16205 \*Mr. Upton. Mr. Chairman, thank you, and I ask to  
16206 strike the last word.

16207 \*The Chairman. The gentleman --

16208 \*Mr. Upton. So, Mr. Chairman, I know there is a number  
16209 of us that have deep concerns about moving forward with such  
16210 a rushed process, now that we are close to 1:00 in the  
16211 morning. This amendment in the nature of a substitute was  
16212 just -- I was going to say released yesterday, but I guess,  
16213 since it is after midnight, two days ago now. But the  
16214 members really haven't had much of a chance to review it, and

16215 technical experts or agency officials certainly have not had  
16216 the opportunity to weigh in, either. This is not the way to  
16217 legislate on something like this.

16218         None of these programs in the ANS have had any vetting.  
16219 And so why are we talking about taking hundreds of billions  
16220 of dollars in government spending programs?

16221         There is no question that the rushed process is going to  
16222 lead to waste, fraud, and abuse. It is going to make the  
16223 inflation and the labor crisis even worse.

16224         And I would note that this subtitle has two provisions  
16225 in it that appropriate 200 million and 100 million,  
16226 respectively, to DOE and FERC, under the guise of making NEPA  
16227 reviews more efficient and effective. But again, our  
16228 colleagues, some of our colleagues on your side, think that  
16229 maybe throwing the money at something is the solution to all  
16230 challenges, versus literally having a hearing that walks  
16231 through real procedures that might be more beneficial.

16232         You know, our side, we have got a suite of bills in our  
16233 Securing Cleaner American Energy agenda that is actually  
16234 going to remove regulatory barriers to deploy more clean  
16235 energy and promote more energy innovation, reforming the  
16236 permitting and license processes associated with nuclear  
16237 energy, hydro, natural pipelines, transmission lines, and  
16238 manufacturing facilities. Under these bills we will produce  
16239 real results. America will be more energy secure, prices are

16240 going to be more affordable, and emissions will be reduced.

16241         So, Mr. Chairman, the American people need more than  
16242 just this bill from Congress. We know that this bill is dead  
16243 on arrival in the Senate. We don't want the Green New Deal.  
16244 Our folks want reliable and affordable energy. They don't  
16245 want to lose their electricity when there is a cold snap, or  
16246 have to go without air conditioning during the heat wave when  
16247 the wind stops blowing. Look at what is happening in Europe  
16248 today. Americans don't want carbon cap-and-trade, natural  
16249 gas taxes, or a mandate to drive an electric vehicle.

16250         Instead, this committee ought to be focused on  
16251 delivering what Americans do want: clean, reliable,  
16252 affordable energy, more resilient power grid that can  
16253 withstand all the hazards. Americans want choices, not  
16254 mandates when it comes to the cars we drive and the products  
16255 we buy.

16256         So, Mr. Chairman, I hope we can get back to regular  
16257 order: real hearings, bipartisan legislating. That is how  
16258 we make the laws that truly benefit everybody.

16259         And with that, I yield back.

16260         \*The Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Upton.

16261         Now, before we -- before I forget, we had two documents  
16262 that were submitted for the record that related to this --  
16263 what is it, CRT? One was the -- was from the United States  
16264 Conference of Mayors, a resolution number 68, and the other

16265 was from the National Education Association, their resolution  
16266 on the same topic, item number 39.

16267 And so I would ask unanimous consent that these be  
16268 submitted for the record.

16269 And without objection, so ordered.

16270 [The information follows:]

16271

16272 \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

16273

16274           \*The Chairman. Now, who else would like to speak on the  
16275   ANS?

16276           \*Ms. DeGette. Chairman?

16277           \*The Chairman. We could also just go to the amendments,  
16278   but -- we have -- Ms. DeGette is recognized for five minutes.

16279           \*Ms. DeGette. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman,  
16280   climate change is here today, and every single member of this  
16281   committee has seen evidence of it in their congressional  
16282   district.

16283           Here in Colorado we have had drought and wildfires, and  
16284   throughout the West. But we have also had storms, floods,  
16285   sea level rising throughout this country. And frankly, the  
16286   most vulnerable among us face the worst impacts. And as the  
16287   scientists predict, this is just the beginning.

16288           And everybody on this committee, those of you who served  
16289   with me, when we tried to tackle this in 2009 and 2010, knows  
16290   we are long overdue for action on climate change. And that  
16291   is why I am really excited about the investments that we are  
16292   making in this legislation through the Clean Energy (sic)  
16293   Performance Program, because, with these strategic  
16294   investments, we are going to be building an affordable,  
16295   reliable, and cleaner electricity system without mandates,  
16296   just the kinds of things that my dear friend, Mr. Upton, is  
16297   talking about.

16298           And furthermore, the clean energy program generates

16299 electricity from zero carbon sources. And I want to say -- I  
16300 want everybody to listen to me. I know it is late, and it is  
16301 even later than it is in Colorado on the East Coast. But I  
16302 want you to know the sources listed in this bill are zero-  
16303 carbon sources like renewable energy, nuclear energy, even  
16304 fossil fuels, as long as the carbon is captured and  
16305 sequestered, as well as the things my colleagues keep talking  
16306 about: wind, solar, and hydropower. All of those things can  
16307 be included, so long as carbon is clean, and that is what  
16308 this is about.

16309         And so I am going to say it again, because I know we are  
16310 going to hear people saying we are having mandates for only  
16311 certain types of energy. That is not what this is about.  
16312 What it is about is making sure that we can generate  
16313 electricity from zero-carbon sources, irrespective of what  
16314 those sources are. And so that is why this is really, really  
16315 a great section, and that is why the ANS is so great.

16316         I want everybody to support it, because it is going to  
16317 help put the United States at the forefront of a growing  
16318 global market for the technologies, and it is going to have  
16319 the added effect of taking us to our goal of zero-carbon  
16320 emissions.

16321         With that I yield back.

16322         \*The Chairman. I thank the gentlewoman.

16323         Do we have someone on the Republican side?

16324           \*Mr. Burgess. Yes, Mr. Chairman, Burgess here.

16325           \*The Chairman. Mr. Burgess is recognized for five  
16326 minutes.

16327           \*Mr. Burgess. Thank you. We have an amendment to the  
16328 ANS. It is pretty simple and straightforward.

16329           \*The Chairman. I don't know, are there other members  
16330 that wanted to speak on the underlying bill? We should do  
16331 that first, Mr. Burgess.

16332           \*Mr. Burgess. Very well.

16333           \*Mr. Sarbanes. Yes, Mr. Chairman?

16334           \*The Chairman. All right --

16335           \*Mr. Sarbanes. Mr. Chairman?

16336           \*The Chairman. Yes? Mr. -- do we have a Republican  
16337 that was -- wants to speak on the underlying?

16338           All right, then we will go to the Democrats. Mr.  
16339 Sarbanes is recognized for five minutes.

16340           \*Mr. Sarbanes. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last  
16341 word.

16342           \*The Chairman. The gentleman is recognized.

16343           \*Mr. Sarbanes. I want to thank you, Mr. Chairman, for  
16344 pulling this legislation to -- this Build Back Better  
16345 legislation, which is making record investments in critical  
16346 programs across the government. That is what this whole  
16347 discussion has been about. Very critical.

16348           In particular, I appreciate including in this subtitle



16349 \$17.5 billion for the Federal Energy Efficiency Fund, which  
16350 is a tremendous investment for the purpose of decarbonizing  
16351 our Federal facilities and Federal fleets. It aligns -- this  
16352 particular investment aligns with the funding included in a  
16353 bill that Congressman Welch and I introduced, the Federal  
16354 Building Clean Jobs Act.

16355         The building sector in the United States consumes a  
16356 significant amount of energy for a variety of purposes,  
16357 including heating and cooling and lighting, and is currently  
16358 responsible for approximately 40 percent of energy consumed  
16359 and greenhouse gas emissions produced. As the single largest  
16360 building owner and manager in the United States, that makes  
16361 sense, of course, the Federal Government has a responsibility  
16362 to lead on this, to lead in terms of making buildings more  
16363 resilient, healthy, and efficient.

16364         In addition to using these funds for energy efficiency  
16365 measures and retrofits, this provision that is included in  
16366 the subtitle allows the Department of Energy to partner with  
16367 Federal agencies to procure 24/7 clean power, as well as  
16368 develop and deploy low-carbon materials such as low-carbon  
16369 cement and steel. By making the U.S. Government a major  
16370 purchaser of the industrial materials, the government will  
16371 drive innovation, and help develop a market for these Next  
16372 Generation products.

16373         Ultimately, the fund allows the government to take a

16374 significant step towards a cleaner future, a cleaner future  
16375 that we all want to see.

16376 I urge my colleagues to support the provision and the  
16377 overall bill. I yield back my time.

16378 \*The Chairman. I thank the gentleman. Unless there is  
16379 a Republican, I am going to go to the Democratic side again.

16380 Mr. -- the gentleman from Oregon, Mr. Schrader, is  
16381 recognized for five minutes.

16382 \*Mr. Schrader. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate  
16383 that. A big supporter of the energy investments we are  
16384 making, some of which are in this bill, some of which,  
16385 frankly, are all also, as I have talked about before, the  
16386 Bipartisan Infrastructure Framework. Some of these are very  
16387 duplicative, to be quite honest.

16388 The bipartisan infrastructure package that we are,  
16389 hopefully, going to be voting on here on 9/27 puts \$73  
16390 billion, the single largest investment in clean energy  
16391 transmission in American history, on the table. That is the  
16392 largest investment in clean energy transmission in American  
16393 history. It is in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Framework.  
16394 I do not want to see that, frankly, duplicated here.

16395 It also has a new grid development authority that will  
16396 modernize our grid distribution system, promote smart grid  
16397 technologies, exactly what we need to be doing here.

16398 I would also point out that, while I am a big fan of the

16399 EV program, that is already done in the Bipartisan  
16400 Infrastructure Framework. Why are we spending more money  
16401 here?

16402 According to the President of the United States, the  
16403 deal will deliver thousands of electric school buses  
16404 nationwide, including rural communities, helping school  
16405 districts across the country deploy with clean -- American-  
16406 made zero-emission buses. It is the first-ever national  
16407 investment EV charging infrastructure in the United States, a  
16408 critical element in the Biden-Harris Administration's plan to  
16409 accelerate the adoption of EVs.

16410 Why do we duplicate that in this bill? I don't  
16411 understand that. We don't have unlimited amounts of money.  
16412 We spent a lot of money, well spent, making sure America  
16413 survived COVID. It is time to cut back on some of our  
16414 expenditures and, frankly, get a pay-for. We already have  
16415 the pay-fors here, in the Bipartisan Infrastructure  
16416 Framework.

16417 So I just wish we would consider that as we move  
16418 forward. Let's be smart in the investments.

16419 And I yield back, Mr. Chairman.

16420 \*The Chairman. Thank you. Mr. Peters, assuming we have  
16421 no Republican, Mr. Peters is recognized for five minutes.

16422 \*Mr. Peters. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There is a lot  
16423 to say, but I won't say it at this hour. Just a couple of

16424 points.

16425           First of all, I want to say that I support the Clean  
16426 Energy (sic) Performance Program, and I thank Ms. DeGette for  
16427 her leadership on this, and on her Clean Energy Standard.  
16428 Two caveats.

16429           First, as we develop this program, we should ensure that  
16430 early actors are rewarded, and not penalized for our previous  
16431 investments in clean energy. California, in particular, has  
16432 been leading the nation in renewable energy deployment, and  
16433 our utilities and ratepayers should not be harmed as others  
16434 try to catch up to our example. And I hope that will be  
16435 taken care of as we move this bill ahead.

16436           Second, I continue to maintain that a technology-  
16437 neutral, economy-wide price on carbon is a more efficient and  
16438 effective way to incentivize the movement away from fuels  
16439 that drive climate change. The CEPP is terrific for the  
16440 energy sector, but for the rest of the sectors we need an  
16441 economy-wide incentive. Most of the revenues from any price  
16442 on carbon could be refunded to taxpayers, particularly under  
16443 -- earning under 400,000 per year, so they don't have to see  
16444 an increase in energy expenditures. And we could also help  
16445 fund communities who depend on legacy energy production.

16446           So I have said many things about that issue from this  
16447 chair, and I won't do it again. I just hope that the Senate  
16448 considers that as a possible tool, as well.

16449           With that I yield back.

16450           \*The Chairman. I thank the gentleman. Mr. -- sorry?

16451           Mr. O'Halleran is recognized for five minutes.

16452           \*Mr. O'Halleran. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Arizona has  
16453 seen the consequences of inaction on climate change, and  
16454 every year, Arizonans and the West cite record-setting  
16455 wildfires. The wildfire season lasts longer, and is more  
16456 intense, due to climate change. Droughts are also getting  
16457 worse year after year. We are in the middle of about a 22-  
16458 year drought. Lake Mead is at its lowest level in history,  
16459 and a water shortage has been declared for the Colorado River  
16460 for the first time, ever.

16461           But we need action to protect American lives and  
16462 livelihoods. Towns are being destroyed throughout the West,  
16463 and our forests and their resources destroyed.

16464           Our state is also playing a key role in solving the  
16465 climate crisis. There is no better place for solar  
16466 investment than sunny Arizona. I support many provisions of  
16467 this bill, which promote energy efficiency and encourage the  
16468 development of clean energy sources.

16469           However, broad changes to energy production must be done  
16470 carefully, with solutions that work long-term. I don't  
16471 believe a pricing scheme can work that takes a 12-month view  
16472 of clean energy production. Our energy producers in Arizona  
16473 are already phasing out coal over the next decade. They put

16474 timelines in, and are ready to do that, and are in the  
16475 process of doing that. Plans are in motion to replace  
16476 higher-carbon fuels with cleaner forms of energy.

16477         These aren't changes that can be made on a dime, and  
16478 take long-term planning. The workforce currently isn't  
16479 trained and in place to bring online the clean energy  
16480 resources needed to meet the targets of the Clean Energy  
16481 (sic) Performance Program.

16482         Furthermore, this new program is banking on the  
16483 development of technology that is currently not available.  
16484 We don't have the battery capacity required for this switch.  
16485 The transition away from coal is already happening. Market  
16486 forces and common -- consumer demand are bringing more solar  
16487 and wind resources online daily. We need to take a smarter  
16488 approach to encourage these changes. We don't need blunt  
16489 penalties that are impossible for energy producers to avoid.

16490         As this bill moves forward, I will continue to push for  
16491 changes to this section. I believe we can find a solution  
16492 that will promote clean energy sources in a workable way, and  
16493 I yield back.

16494         \*The Chairman. I thank you, Mr. O'Halleran. Ms.  
16495 Schrier is next.

16496         You are recognized for five minutes.

16497         \*Ms. Schrier. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to  
16498 strike the last word.

16499           With a warming climate, increasingly catastrophic  
16500 wildfires plague the entire Western United States, and every  
16501 summer we choke on smoke, and gather our most important  
16502 belongings, just in case we need to evacuate quickly. And  
16503 this summer we saw an unprecedented heat wave that threatened  
16504 people's lives and livelihoods.

16505           Given what we know about our warming climate, this is  
16506 our new baseline. It is not too late, though, to change the  
16507 trajectory. Now, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate  
16508 Change, the IPCC, found earlier this year that we have less  
16509 than a decade to slash our carbon pollution in half, or we  
16510 will sail past that two-degree Celsius benchmark that will  
16511 result in the most disastrous impacts. And in order to meet  
16512 this kind of ambitious goal, we need bold action here now,  
16513 and in cooperation with the world.

16514           That is why I am so excited about the Build Back Better  
16515 Act and its climate provisions. For example, this bill  
16516 invests \$5 billion to replace heavy-duty vehicles like  
16517 garbage trucks and school buses with zero-emission  
16518 alternatives. Heavy-duty vehicles play an outsized role in  
16519 pollution. Although they represent only 7 percent of the  
16520 vehicles on the road, they are responsible for 25 percent of  
16521 the greenhouse gas emissions, 50 percent of the nitrous oxide  
16522 emissions, and 67 percent of the particulates. Our children  
16523 should not be sucking in toxic fumes while their school buses

16524 idle, or while we drive behind a truck.

16525 I am also glad this bill invests in the installation of  
16526 zero-emission equipment and technology at our nation's ports.  
16527 It is vital that our ports, especially along our shores, are  
16528 included in efforts to tackle the climate crisis.

16529 Also, I would like to associate myself with the comments  
16530 made by my colleague, Representative Peters. I support the  
16531 historic investments in the Clean Electricity Performance  
16532 Program, which will make clean energy more feasible across  
16533 the country.

16534 But as we implement this program, it is really important  
16535 to make sure we get the details right. Here in the  
16536 Northwest, like in California, we have abundant hydropower,  
16537 and our utilities are ahead of the curve, and have been  
16538 working for years toward a goal of 100 percent clean power.  
16539 So I appreciate the work that has been done to account for  
16540 utilities that have already taken great steps toward clean  
16541 energy, and I hope we can continue to work together to ensure  
16542 that there is still flexibility necessary for the utilities  
16543 who are working on that last 20 percent, and not the first 80  
16544 percent, because they are much tougher.

16545 I look forward to working with you together to get that  
16546 -- to get there cleaner, and faster, and at lower cost for  
16547 customers.

16548 I would also like, Mr. Chairman, to submit for the



16549 record a letter from Puget Sound Energy related to the CEPP  
16550 program.

16551 Finally, I would like to highlight the funding that this  
16552 bill provides to assist communities in developing and  
16553 implementing plans to prepare for and mitigate the health and  
16554 environmental impacts of wildfire smoke. Climate change  
16555 threatens our planet, our health, our national security with  
16556 droughts in the West and floods in the East. And it is long  
16557 past time that Congress stepped up to sharply curtail our  
16558 greenhouse gas emissions. As a mom, and as a pediatrician, I  
16559 believe we owe this to our children and grandchildren.

16560 I yield back, thank you.

16561 \*The Chairman. Thank you.

16562 Mr. Soto, you had your hand up. You are recognized for  
16563 five minutes.

16564 \*Mr. Soto. I move to strike the last word, Mr.  
16565 Chairman.

16566 \*The Chairman. The gentleman is recognized.

16567 \*Mr. Soto. Tonight we are acting on climate. This  
16568 committee is finally putting our money where our mouth is  
16569 with the Build Back Better Act.

16570 The \$150 billion Clean Electricity Performance Program  
16571 is the foundation of combating climate change in the 21st  
16572 century. It is the workforce -- it is the workhorse that  
16573 will power 4 percent increases each year in clean electricity

16574 performance every year for the next 8 years, helping us reach  
16575 those 2030 through 2050 CO2 goals. And it is energy neutral.  
16576 If you can reduce CO2 with that energy source and that  
16577 technology, you can use it. Solar, wind, hydro, gas, and  
16578 nuclear will all be competitive.

16579 We are also boosting electric vehicle infrastructure by  
16580 over \$25 billion. Transportation has already passed up  
16581 utilities as the biggest emitter of CO2 in our nation. We  
16582 must act now. Hurricanes, flooding, wildfires are consuming  
16583 our nation. In Florida we face these threats and rising  
16584 seas, and tonight we do something about it.

16585 And I yield back.

16586 \*The Chairman. Thank you. Does anyone else want to  
16587 speak on the underlying -- well, I guess it is on the ANS.

16588 If not, we are -

16589 \*Mr. Welch. Yes.

16590 \*The Chairman. Who?

16591 \*Voice. Mr. Welch -

16592 \*The Chairman. Mr. Welch --

16593 \*Mr. Welch. I do -

16594 \*The Chairman. -- is recognized for five minutes.

16595 \*Mr. Welch. I -- you know, this is a tremendous  
16596 component of the bill. And one of the elements is Hope for  
16597 Homes, which is something that I have been working on with  
16598 Mr. McKinley for well over 10 years.

16599           And it -- you know, what it does is provide incentives  
16600   for homeowners to retrofit their homes. And the best way to  
16601   cut down on carbon emissions -- and there is many, and we  
16602   have to do them all -- is efficiency. And this provides a  
16603   direct incentive for homeowners to basically retrofit their  
16604   homes, and 40 percent of the carbon emission reductions that  
16605   we have to achieve can be done through efficiency.

16606           And what Mr. McKinley and I have been promoting in this  
16607   legislation is developing a partnership between the Federal  
16608   Government and the homeowner and -- through incentives,  
16609   where, at the end of the day, homeowners will save money with  
16610   a tighter and more efficient home, it creates local jobs. It  
16611   is all tradespeople who are doing this insulation work. It  
16612   is tough, it is hard, it is important.

16613           And of course, by the way, we are reducing carbon  
16614   emissions.

16615           So my hope is that we will be able to get this  
16616   bipartisan component of this legislation passed tonight in  
16617   this markup. Thank you.

16618           I yield back.

16619           \*The Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Welch.

16620           Are there any other -- McNerney? Mr. McNerney wants to  
16621   speak on the ANS of the underlying bill. The gentleman is  
16622   recognized.

16623           \*Mr. McNerney. Well, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

16624           We have really run out of time. Climate change is here,  
16625   and is accelerating. The longer we wait, the worse it is  
16626   going to be. Here is what is going to happen: 30 years from  
16627   now your grandchildren are going to say, "What were you doing  
16628   when climate change -- when we still had a chance to fight  
16629   climate change?'"

16630           And you want to be able to say, "I was part of the  
16631   solution.'" But not all of us are in that position right  
16632   now. And you know what? History is watching, and history  
16633   remembers.

16634           I yield back.

16635           \*The Chairman. Thank you. All right, we are going to  
16636   go to amendments. We have some Republicans -- we have a  
16637   Republican amendment?

16638           \*Mrs. Rodgers. Burgess.

16639           \*The Chairman. Mr. Burgess? Oh, I am sorry, I saw you  
16640   before. Okay, Mr. Burgess, what is the amendment that you  
16641   have? What is your amendment labeled?

16642           \*Mr. Burgess. B\_213.

16643           \*The Chairman. Does the clerk have that one?

16644           [Pause.]

16645           \*The Chairman. Oh, I am sorry, okay. I didn't realize  
16646   we had Democratic amendments, Dr. Burgess. And I think it is  
16647   going to be withdrawn, so why don't we do that first?

16648           Mr. Schrader has an amendment.

16649           \*Mr. Schrader. Yes, Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment  
16650 at the desk.

16651           \*The Chairman. Is that labeled? Or you just have one?

16652           \*Mr. Schrader. I just have the one.

16653           \*The Chairman. Do the clerks have it?

16654           \*The Clerk. I have it.

16655           \*The Chairman. All right. So will -- the clerk will  
16656 report the Schrader amendment.

16657           \*The Clerk. Amendment to Subtitle D, offered by Mr.  
16658 Schrader of Oregon. At the end of Part 8, add the following:  
16659 section 30485, duration of offset after September -

16660           \*The Chairman. Without objection, the reading of the  
16661 amendment will be dispensed with.

16662           [The amendment of Mr. Schrader follows:]

16663

16664           \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

16665

16666           \*The Chairman. And Mr. Schrader is recognized for five  
16667 minutes.

16668           \*Mr. Schrader. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I  
16669 appreciate it.

16670           The Columbia River Treaty is a six-year-old agreement  
16671 for coordinating hydropower and flood control operations in  
16672 Columbia River Basin. But the treaty, which the United  
16673 States and Canada first agreed upon in 1961, is outdated and  
16674 badly in need of modernization.

16675           Due to a formula to -- agreed to, excuse me, in the  
16676 1960s, my constituents, more than 6.5 million electric  
16677 ratepayers across Oregon, Washington State, Idaho, and  
16678 Montana, now disproportionately spend -- or, excuse me, send  
16679 -- an average of about \$150 million to subsidize Canadian  
16680 power, above and beyond any benefits they receive from the  
16681 Columbia River Treaty.

16682           This amounts to a direct wealth transfer from every  
16683 single Bonneville Power Administration ratepayer to the  
16684 provincial government of British Columbia. In fact,  
16685 Bonneville ratepayers currently overpay Canada 70 to 90  
16686 percent of the presumed downstream power benefits. Totally  
16687 unfair. Electricity ratepayers at Pacific Northwest are  
16688 subsidizing our neighbors to the North because of the so-  
16689 called Canadian entitlement based on an outdated and,  
16690 frankly, obsolete formula.

16691           The Columbia River Treaty needs to be updated. The  
16692 United States could have acted back in 2014 to address this  
16693 wealth transfer from my constituents. Negotiations with  
16694 Canada have been virtually non-existent since then. Frankly,  
16695 Canada wants even more money from the United States. That is  
16696 unacceptable. These delays cost Bonneville ratepayers  
16697 approximately \$1 million every 3 days. And with no Federal  
16698 funds in the game, the State Department has demonstrated  
16699 little interest to press Canada to address this costly,  
16700 unfair, and out-of-date wealth transfer.

16701           That is why I am offering this amendment. It would  
16702 provide relief to Bonneville ratepayers on our side of the  
16703 border until the United States and Canada can agree on  
16704 updates to Canadian entitlement. My amendment creates a  
16705 powerful incentive for our government to finalize  
16706 renegotiation of the Columbia River Treaty in a timely  
16707 manner.

16708           It is unfair that my constituents should have to  
16709 continue this massive overpayment to Canada because treaty  
16710 negotiators aren't really progressing. It is critical we  
16711 modernize that treaty so Bonneville ratepayers must no longer  
16712 endure this inequity. Bonneville's renewable, zero-carbon  
16713 hydropower is vital to achieving our climate goals, and it is  
16714 long past due for the State Department to renegotiate the  
16715 Columbia River Treaty.

16716           Mr. Chairman, I understand there is some jurisdictional  
16717 concerns regarding my amendment, so I will be withdrawing it  
16718 in hopes that we can address this inequity in another way. I  
16719 hope we can work together to hold the State Department and  
16720 Canada accountable for getting the job done.

16721           With that I yield back, Mr. Chair --

16722           \*The Chairman. Well, before you yield, if you would,  
16723 yield to me.

16724           \*Mr. Schrader. Oh, I will yield to the chair --

16725           \*The Chairman. All right.

16726           \*Mr. Schrader. -- yes, sir.

16727           \*The Chairman. I want to thank the gentleman from  
16728 Oregon for bringing attention to this critical issue. And  
16729 thanks to you and the gentlewoman Schrier, Dr. Schrier, for  
16730 your continued efforts to protect ratepayers in the  
16731 Pacific --

16732           Oh, I should add you?

16733           \*Mrs. Rodgers. Yes.

16734           \*The Chairman. Okay.

16735           [Laughter.]

16736           \*The Chairman. All right, all right. So I thank you,  
16737 the ranking member, Mrs. Rodgers, and Dr. Schrier for your  
16738 continued efforts to protect ratepayers in the Pacific  
16739 Northwest. I agree that Americans should not continue to pay  
16740 to export electricity to Canada, and I look forward to



16741 working with all three of you and President Biden to protect  
16742 Washington and Oregon ratepayers.

16743 And I yield back.

16744 \*Mr. Schrader. With that I withdraw my amendment and  
16745 also yield back, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

16746 \*The Chairman. All right. So the gentleman has yielded  
16747 back.

16748 Ms. Schrier, before -- well, you haven't withdrawn it  
16749 yet. So, Ms. Schrier -- well, I don't know, did you want to  
16750 say something?

16751 \*Mrs. Rodgers. We are good.

16752 \*The Chairman. All right. Ms. -- Dr. Schrier is  
16753 recognized for five minutes.

16754 \*Ms. Schrier. Well, thank you, Mr. Chairman. If it is  
16755 not yet withdrawn, I move to strike the last word, and I just  
16756 simply want to thank my colleague, Representative Schrader,  
16757 for introducing and offering this amendment, which elevates  
16758 this --

16759 [Audio malfunction.]

16760 \*Ms. Schrier. -- really important to the three of us  
16761 from the Northwest. Washington State is the nation's largest  
16762 producer of hydropower, and much of that is generated by  
16763 publicly-owned utilities along the Columbia River in central  
16764 Washington.

16765 And the Columbia River Treaty has governed flood control

16766 and hydropower production in the Northwest since 1964, and  
16767 the treaty has been a real success -- international  
16768 cooperation, but it is way past time to renegotiate, as you  
16769 already heard.

16770         The rates are based on a 1960s-era -- projection that  
16771 really never came to fruition. The dams are -- built. And  
16772 as a result, the U.S. overpays Canada about \$150 million a  
16773 year. And Chelan County PUD, in my district, is the single  
16774 largest payer into the treaty's Canadian entitlements, with  
16775 Grant and Douglas PUDs close behind. And the payments are  
16776 costing local ratepayers millions of dollars more than they  
16777 should, for my constituents, just like for Representative  
16778 Schrader's. While these negotiations start and stall again  
16779 and again, ratepayers in the Northwest remain on the hook for  
16780 these overpayments.

16781         I want to thank Congressman Schrader for this amendment,  
16782 and continue to -- look forward to continuing to work  
16783 together, the three of us on this committee, to modernize the  
16784 Columbia River Treaty as soon as possible.

16785         I thank you, and I yield back.

16786         \*The Chairman. The gentlewoman yields back. Anyone  
16787 else before Mr. Schrader withdraws?

16788         Save our dams.

16789         [Laughter.]

16790         \*The Chairman. All right, Mr. Schrader.

16791           \*Mr. Schrader. Thank you, Mr. -- thank you for the  
16792 consideration, Mr. Chairman. I withdraw my amendment and  
16793 yield back.

16794           \*The Chairman. The gentleman has withdrawn his  
16795 amendment. Now we are going to go to another offer and  
16796 withdraw, I believe, from Mr. O'Halleran.

16797           Mr. O'Halleran, for what purpose do you seek  
16798 recognition?

16799           [Pause.]

16800           \*The Chairman. You are muted, apparently. You have to  
16801 unmute yourself.

16802           \*Mr. O'Halleran. I have an amendment at the desk, Mr.  
16803 Chairman.

16804           \*The Chairman. What is your amendment labeled?

16805           \*Mr. O'Halleran. I do not have that right now, Mr.  
16806 Chairman.

16807           \*The Chairman. There is only one. We have it.

16808           \*Mr. O'Halleran. Yes --

16809           \*The Chairman. The clerk will report O'Halleran  
16810 amendment.

16811           \*The Clerk. Amendment to Subtitle D, offered by Mr.  
16812 O'Halleran of Arizona. At the end of Subtitle D, insert the  
16813 following: Part 9, national energy workforce -

16814           \*The Chairman. Madam Clerk, without objection, the  
16815 reading of the O'Halleran amendment will be dispensed with.

16816           [The amendment of Mr. O'Halleran follows:]

16817

16818       \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

16819

16820           \*The Chairman. And the gentleman from Arizona is  
16821 recognized for five minutes.

16822           \*Mr. O'Halleran. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I agree with  
16823 my colleagues that this bill is an important step forward in  
16824 achieving a clean energy future.

16825           There is no question that our country must transition  
16826 away from fossil fuels, and reduce carbon pollution as soon  
16827 as possible. However, this bill falls far short in assisting  
16828 communities that have been left behind. I am talking about  
16829 communities which are economically dependent on coal and  
16830 other fossil fuels. They have been working for generations  
16831 to supply the fuel to keep the lights on for the rest of the  
16832 country.

16833           In my district, the Navajo Generation Station closed two  
16834 years ago. It was one of the largest coal-fired power plants  
16835 in the Southwest. And there are four more on schedule by  
16836 2031. The closing of the plant in the Kayenta coal mine cost  
16837 the northern Arizona community over 700 good-paying union  
16838 jobs. This is devastating for the local economy. Tax  
16839 revenues go down, with impacts to local schools, health care,  
16840 and other vital services. This will be taking place around  
16841 our country.

16842           This story will be repeated time and time and time  
16843 again. In my district alone, the remaining coal-fired power  
16844 plants will be retiring starting in 2025. If we want this

16845 transition to clean energy to succeed, we need to target  
16846 relief at those impacted communities. We can't have winners  
16847 and losers. These are communities that have been overlooked  
16848 for many years.

16849         We have an opportunity here to provide real relief. The  
16850 bill before us today does not do this to the level it should.  
16851 It proposes a \$2 billion fund for utilities to repurpose coal  
16852 assets and make investments in these communities. I am not  
16853 opposed to this program, but it is not nearly enough.

16854         We need to help these communities replace lost tax  
16855 revenue. We need targeted investments in workforce training  
16856 and education. We need to replace the local jobs with real  
16857 careers, and we can't ask these workers to sit and wait for  
16858 assistance for years after their jobs are lost.

16859         They need support, even before the coal plant closes its  
16860 doors. They need stability and investment. They need to  
16861 know that their community will continue, and the educational  
16862 systems, and the hospitals, and the fire districts.

16863         My amendment would add the text of the New Promise Act.  
16864 My bill would provide an additional 1.35 billion in support  
16865 of coal communities as an -- transition away from carbon-  
16866 intensive fossil fuels. Even my amendment is not sufficient  
16867 to meet the needs of these communities over the long haul,  
16868 but it is a good start.

16869         Before the Build Back America Plan Act is voted on by

16870 the whole House, I would like to see changes in this area.  
16871 Whether we amend title D or make changes to other titles that  
16872 focus on workforce development, we must bring more investment  
16873 to these energy transition communities. I trust the chairman  
16874 and other leaders in the House are open to doing more in this  
16875 area.

16876 I look forward to working with you and -- on this issue.  
16877 I withdraw my amendment, and yield back.

16878 \*The Chairman. I thank the gentleman. He has  
16879 officially -- you have officially withdrawn the amendment for  
16880 now? We are going to work with you. All right. Thank you  
16881 so much.

16882 \*Mr. O'Halleran. Thank you, Chairman.

16883 \*The Chairman. Now we are going to go back to -- Dr.  
16884 Burgess has an amendment. What is it labeled?

16885 \*Mr. Burgess. I have an amendment at the desk labeled  
16886 B2-13.

16887 \*The Chairman. Does the clerk have the Burgess  
16888 amendment?

16889 \*The Clerk. Yes, sir.

16890 \*The Chairman. The clerk will report the amendment.

16891 \*The Clerk. Amendment to Subtitle D, offered by Mr.  
16892 Burgess of Texas. Strike section 30411 -

16893 \*The Chairman. Without objection, the reading of the  
16894 amendment will be dispensed with, and the gentleman from

16895 Texas is recognized for five minutes.

16896 [The amendment of Mr. Burgess follows:]

16897

16898 \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

16899



16900           \*Mr. Burgess. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. As the clerk  
16901 was about to report, this amendment strikes section 30411,  
16902 and that is the section of the Clean Energy (sic) Performance  
16903 Program.

16904           Look, I recognize that it is late, and our audience  
16905 across the country has probably dwindled with the lateness of  
16906 the hour. But it should be intuitively obvious to the casual  
16907 observer that the Clean Energy (sic) Performance Program is a  
16908 threat to the reliability of our electric grid, and to the  
16909 wallets of ratepayers and, of course, jeopardizes energy jobs  
16910 across America.

16911           Look, here is a simple truth. America has reduced  
16912 carbon emissions year over year, every year since 2005, and  
16913 America leads the globe in reducing carbon emissions. Most  
16914 of this is because of the transition from coal to natural  
16915 gas, and I think we should see that as a good thing. But  
16916 instead of promoting this transition to natural gas, the  
16917 Clean Energy (sic) Performance Program will instead seek to  
16918 limit its use and, paradoxically, then raise emissions.

16919           Look, Mr. Upton said it very, very well: this is a  
16920 complicated system that we are considering late at night,  
16921 without the proper vetting by the committee, without the  
16922 proper oversight, without the proper work on the  
16923 authorization side. And what the net effect is going to be  
16924 is to lead to higher costs for utilities across the nation.

16925 And guess who pays those higher costs? It is the ratepayer,  
16926 it is the consumer when they pay higher electric rates.

16927 Several people have mentioned tonight -- and this entire  
16928 section basically was the Waxman-Markey cap-and-trade bill  
16929 that the committee marked up for several days in 2009. And  
16930 now we have got scarcely an hour tacked on to the end of what  
16931 has already been a very long day.

16932 Now, the good news is, back in 2009, Waxman-Markey did  
16933 not become law. However, as a member of the committee back  
16934 then, I will tell you it is disheartening to see that, once  
16935 again, we have similarly ill-conceived legislation being  
16936 considered today.

16937 So look, instead of raising costs on consumers, let's  
16938 increase reliability. Instead of picking winners and losers,  
16939 let's create a level playing field, and promote a diverse  
16940 energy mix. Instead of reducing our energy security further,  
16941 we should instead prioritize our energy independence, and  
16942 promote our domestic energy sources.

16943 I strongly urge colleagues to consider this amendment,  
16944 and I ask the chairman for its passage, and I yield back.

16945 \*The Chairman. Thank you, Dr. Burgess. Does anyone  
16946 want to respond to this?

16947 Oh, what did you want to -- oh, just before I recognize  
16948 Ms. Castor, I wanted to say, you know, there is a bunch of  
16949 members who still have their hand up, virtually, from the

16950 previous speeches. So if you could lower it, because,  
16951 otherwise, I won't know who wants to be recognized on this.  
16952 So if you -- if your hand is up, and you don't want to be  
16953 recognized on the Burgess amendment, please put your virtual  
16954 hand down.

16955 And now I recognize Ms. Castor for five minutes.

16956 \*Ms. Castor. Well, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to  
16957 strike the last word.

16958 \*The Chairman. The gentlewoman is recognized.

16959 \*Ms. Castor. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

16960 Members, through this Build Back Better package, we  
16961 intend to unleash American ingenuity to avoid rising costs  
16962 and the catastrophic impacts of the climate crisis.

16963 You know, a broad, bipartisan majority of Americans  
16964 support clean energy. It is less expensive, and it comes  
16965 with less pollution. And scientists across the globe  
16966 recently released an alarming warning in its sixth  
16967 assessment. It was described as a code red for humanity. In  
16968 essence, it said we better decarbonize the economy as soon as  
16969 possible, in order to avoid the worst impacts of climate  
16970 change.

16971 So, as lawmakers, we have got to heed these warnings,  
16972 and act upon them. We have got to meet the urgency of the  
16973 moment. And this Clean Energy (sic) Performance Program is  
16974 key to solving the climate crisis, and we can do this.

16975 Climate change is human-caused, and that means humans can  
16976 help solve it.

16977 Now, all Americans would benefit from the investments  
16978 through the Clean Energy (sic) Performance Program. It is  
16979 estimated that this effort will create nearly 8 million jobs,  
16980 and lead to nearly \$1 trillion in economic growth over the  
16981 next 10 years through incentives to local electric utilities  
16982 that increase their share of clean electricity each year.

16983 And regarding jobs, you will see good-paying jobs grow  
16984 in every congressional district, rural, suburban, urban,  
16985 family-sustaining careers for engineers, electrical workers,  
16986 wind energy technicians, solar installers, and battery  
16987 manufacturers. I know the Clean Energy Performance Plan  
16988 (sic) will create a huge number of jobs in solar in my home  
16989 state of Florida, but I was thrilled to hear that Orsted, the  
16990 offshore wind developer, was planning to partner with an  
16991 American company to build ships to help construct and  
16992 maintain the offshore wind turbines at Port Tampa Bay. These  
16993 are the kind of jobs where you may not even know about them,  
16994 you may not expect them. But these new vessels will be  
16995 constructed at Port Tampa Bay and other shipyards in  
16996 Louisiana and Mississippi. These jobs are going to ripple  
16997 out across the country.

16998 In addition to jobs, the Clean Energy Performance Plan  
16999 (sic) would also reduce pollution, and improve the public

17000 health, which is especially critical for underserved  
17001 environmental justice communities that too often carry the  
17002 disproportionate burden of pollution. By cutting pollution  
17003 like sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxide, the Clean Energy  
17004 Performance Plan (sic) would lead to annual climate and  
17005 public health benefits, ranging from 100 to \$184 billion.

17006       And here is the bigger picture. When electricity  
17007 suppliers have the resources they need to transition to clean  
17008 energy, it unleashes innovation throughout our economy, from  
17009 transportation to manufacturing to industry to homes and  
17010 commercial buildings. It eliminates their sources of harmful  
17011 pollution, too, so it is a win-win-win.

17012       But there is one other consideration for all of us. It  
17013 is the moral obligation we have to our kids and future  
17014 generations to act, to leave them with a livable planet. It  
17015 is at risk now, unless we act, and this Clean Energy (sic)  
17016 Performance Program is a linchpin to getting there.

17017       So I urge my colleagues to vote no on the Burgess  
17018 amendment, and move forward expeditiously on our clean energy  
17019 future.

17020       I yield back.

17021       \*The Chairman. I thank the gentlewoman. The ranking  
17022 member, Mrs. Rodgers, is recognized for five minutes.

17023       \*Mrs. Rodgers. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like  
17024 to strike the last word to speak in support of the amendment.

17025           \*The Chairman. The gentlewoman is recognized.

17026           \*Mrs. Rodgers. My fellow colleagues, do you know what  
17027 America's most abundant renewable energy resource is?  
17028 Hydropower. And unfortunately, the Clean Energy Standard  
17029 would be devastating to hydropower.

17030           According to the proposal, electricity suppliers will be  
17031 required to increase their supply of certified -- keyword,  
17032 certified -- clean energy by four percent, annually. This  
17033 one-size-fits-all mandate ignores the substantial progress  
17034 that many utilities across the country have made in recent  
17035 years, especially utilities that use hydropower for  
17036 electricity generation.

17037           The four percent annual mandate creates problems for  
17038 variable hydro generation, because if hydro conditions  
17039 change, due to weather conditions or environmental  
17040 restrictions, it can be difficult or impossible to meet a  
17041 four percent increase from the prior year. There are no off-  
17042 ramps or exceptions in the current proposal, which means that  
17043 hydro-based utilities and their customers will be forced to  
17044 pay the crushing penalties.

17045           The Democrats' Clean Energy Standard -- or maybe we  
17046 should call it the China Electricity Payment Program -- will  
17047 increase every America's -- Americans' electricity bills, and  
17048 discourage the cheapest and most abundant form of renewable  
17049 energy we have in this country: hydropower.

17050           In Washington State alone, hydropower accounts for 70  
17051 percent of our state's clean energy. This kind of top-down  
17052 Federal standard is exactly what we do not want to see happen  
17053 to a country's affordable and reliable electricity.

17054           And it is worth noting that we know this bill doesn't  
17055 stand a chance in the Senate, and they are going to  
17056 completely rewrite it.

17057           In conclusion, I urge my colleagues to join me in  
17058 supporting this amendment to strike the Clean Energy Standard  
17059 to protect dams, protect clean, renewable, affordable  
17060 hydropower here in America, and stop the China Electricity  
17061 Payment Program from making America dependent on Chinese  
17062 supply chains.

17063           Thank you, I yield back.

17064           \*Mr. Guthrie. Will you yield?

17065           \*Mrs. Rodgers. Yes, I will yield to the gentleman from  
17066 Kentucky. I would be happy to yield.

17067           \*Mr. Guthrie. I thank the ranking member for yielding.

17068           First I would like to enter into the record -- there was  
17069 a letter dated -- well, not today, but yesterday, now that we  
17070 are after midnight -- to Democratic leadership from a group  
17071 of my colleagues across the aisle, asking that the  
17072 reconciliation bill not disadvantage oil, natural gas,  
17073 refining, and -- or increasing taxes and fees and -- of the  
17074 exclusion of natural gas and clean energy initiatives. I

17075 will just pass that, I ask that to be entered into the  
17076 record.

17077 \*The Chairman. Without objection, so ordered.

17078 [The information follows:]

17079

17080 \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

17081



17082           \*Mr. Guthrie. And those who signed the letter can join  
17083 us in this amendment, and hopefully on the floor, those -- if  
17084 they are not on the committee, because I have heard from  
17085 several constituents, including co-ops from across Kentucky,  
17086 about their concerns about how a proposal like this one we  
17087 are debating today will sacrifice reliability because of our  
17088 -- that we do have, because it does disadvantage oil and  
17089 natural gas and others that we we depend on.

17090           At the last major Energy and Commerce Committee hearing,  
17091 utility experts focusing on decarbonization in October 2019,  
17092 no witness testified in support of an 80 percent reduction by  
17093 2030, and all of the witnesses discussed challenges to  
17094 getting to 100 percent clean by 2050. The CEO of Mizo  
17095 testified that renewable penetration of 30 percent would  
17096 challenge our ability to maintain the planning reserve margin  
17097 and operate the system with acceptable voltage and thermal  
17098 limits. Maintaining reliability at a 40 percent renewable  
17099 level becomes significantly more complex.

17100           At the same hearing, the CEO gave a series of stark  
17101 warnings, one of which is, he said, we can no longer be  
17102 confident that the system will be reliable. As we have seen  
17103 what is going on in Europe today, we have seen examples of  
17104 that.

17105           And so I will just close with this. Are we really --  
17106 are we sure we are ready to gamble access to reliable,

17107 affordable power to a proposal that was developed without  
17108 substantial input from regulated utilities representing the  
17109 diverse portfolio of ownership structures, generation  
17110 resources, as that letter said, and geographic climate  
17111 challenges that encompass the electric sector, has not been  
17112 modeled to affirm viability and implementation at the  
17113 national range or even utility level, and has only been under  
17114 review for a few days by the members?

17115         The bottom line is we cannot completely switch overnight  
17116 to renewables. We need to balance environmental goals with  
17117 energy independence, energy security, and reliability. We  
17118 should strike this provision to get back to the policies that  
17119 makes sense for working families.

17120         And I yield back to the ranking member.

17121         \*Mrs. Rodgers. And I yield back.

17122         \*The Chairman. Is there a Democrat who would like --  
17123 Ms. Matsui is recognized for five minutes.

17124         \*Ms. Matsui. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and I move to  
17125 strike the last word.

17126         We are already seeing the devastating impacts of the  
17127 climate crisis. In 2020 the United States experienced 14  
17128 major natural disasters, costing Americans \$91 billion. This  
17129 summer one in three Americans were impacted by a natural  
17130 disaster, and three-fifths of all Americans experienced  
17131 dangerous, multi-day heat waves. We cannot deny that nearly

17132 every single one of our states, Republican or Democrat, has  
17133 been affected by intensified extreme weather events due to  
17134 climate change, costing our communities their economic and  
17135 physical well-being.

17136 But Congress can change this by making sound climate  
17137 investments to lower greenhouse gas emissions. I am pleased  
17138 to see the committee's inclusion of the Clean Energy (sic)  
17139 Performance Program, or CEPP. This crucial funding can help  
17140 achieve equal or even lower electricity prices as dirty  
17141 energy sources, which also have staggering environmental and  
17142 socioeconomic costs.

17143 In addition to lowering our electricity bills, CEPP  
17144 investments are vital to low -- to lower our nation's carbon  
17145 footprint, improve air quality, and support millions of high-  
17146 paying, clean jobs across the nation. A recent Berkeley  
17147 University Grid Lab study found that popularizing clean  
17148 energy could save \$1.7 trillion in health and environmental  
17149 costs, and avoid 93,000 premature deaths. Similarly, median  
17150 hourly wages for clean energy jobs, which outnumbered fossil  
17151 fuel jobs by 3 to 1 before the pandemic, are 25 percent  
17152 higher than the national median wage, and pay better than  
17153 most fossil fuel extraction jobs.

17154 It is time to address the root cause of climate change,  
17155 and make bold investments to improve our community's health,  
17156 protect the environment, and get people back to work. I urge

17157 my colleagues to take meaningful action now by supporting  
17158 CEPP investments in this legislation, and oppose efforts to  
17159 undermine these vital resources. We have no time for half  
17160 measures.

17161 Mr. Chairman, I yield back.

17162 \*The Chairman. I thank the gentlewoman. Is there a  
17163 Republican?

17164 Mr. Johnson is recognized for five minutes.

17165 \*Mr. Johnson. Mr. Chairman, I move to strike the last  
17166 word.

17167 \*The Chairman. The gentleman is recognized.

17168 \*Mr. Johnson. Mr. Chairman, I speak in support of Mr.  
17169 Burgess's amendment to strike the Clean Electricity  
17170 Performance Program, a program that, ironically, seeks to  
17171 outlaw America's high-performing coal and natural gas power  
17172 generation.

17173 The provisions of this section represent the greatest  
17174 Federal intrusion into state and utility decision-making in  
17175 over three decades. Yet, with no review, these provisions  
17176 have appeared, literally, out of thin air in the past three  
17177 days. The provisions here go far beyond plowing taxpayer  
17178 dollars into "incentive payments," which would be alarming  
17179 enough by themselves. But these provisions would also  
17180 implement sweeping regulatory mandates and penalties on every  
17181 customer-serving electric utility in the nation, the policy

17182 implications of which are profound.

17183         These implications include negative impacts on costs, on  
17184 reliability, on the rates working families pay, negative  
17185 impacts on state authorities, negative downstream effects on  
17186 large and small businesses, negative impacts on the  
17187 competitiveness of our manufacturing sector, costly  
17188 disruptions to municipalities, the tax base, and agriculture,  
17189 and, of course, the loss of tens of thousands of jobs in the  
17190 coal and gas-fired power sector.

17191         These provisions go -- if these provisions go into  
17192 effect, there would be no escape from the escalating mandates  
17193 and fees if there is a failure to comply, even if compliance  
17194 is technically impossible.

17195         Additionally, the timeframe and requirements do not  
17196 allow time for the deployment of carbon capture advanced  
17197 nuclear technologies, the kind of innovations that could  
17198 provide real solutions in a cleaner, energy secure future.

17199         Mr. Chairman, the committee is -- this committee is the  
17200 premier committee dealing with energy issues. Yet the  
17201 majority is blindly joining the drive to the Biden  
17202 Administration's misguided climate goal to decarbonize the  
17203 electricity sector by 2035. If we don't tap the brakes on  
17204 this, who will? We are supposed to be the specialists on  
17205 this, calling on the experts to make sure we get the policy  
17206 right for the American people.

17207           And speaking of experts, some of them have been raising  
17208 serious questions that this type of unvetted scheme will not  
17209 even be able to drive the massive buildout of weather-  
17210 dependent power generation favored by the Democrats, which  
17211 means utilities and, ultimately, working families will just  
17212 end up paying billions in fees.

17213           As I said at the beginning of this markup, and I want to  
17214 reiterate again, the only reason such destructive, careless,  
17215 clueless pieces of legislation like this will ever see the  
17216 light of day is that too few of those inside the D.C.  
17217 Beltway today has ever signed the front side of a paycheck.  
17218 It is obvious that proponents of these provisions don't know  
17219 how these mandates enacted from on high would affect working  
17220 families and small businesses. It is either they don't know,  
17221 or they simply don't care.

17222           To my Democrat colleagues, please take a step back from  
17223 the ledge. You claim to advocate for working families and  
17224 disadvantaged communities, but this provision will take even  
17225 more of their hard-earned money, and they will be without  
17226 power more frequently. A vote for this amendment is a vote  
17227 to protect working families from high rates, ensure the  
17228 reliability of our electricity systems, and preserve our  
17229 economy.

17230           I urge a yes vote on this amendment and, Mr. Chairman,  
17231 with that I yield back.

17232           \*The Chairman. Thank you, Mr. Johnson.

17233           Do we have a Democrat that wants to speak on this?

17234           Mr. Schrader?

17235           \*Mr. Schrader. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We were  
17236 informed a mere four days ago, Thursday night, that this  
17237 reconciliation bill would establish a completely new program,  
17238 the Clean Energy -- excuse me, Clean Electricity Performance  
17239 Program. It gave us a couple of days to vet one of the most  
17240 important bills this committee will consider in this  
17241 Congress, the biggest threat, probably, to the world and  
17242 America that we face now.

17243           My objections to such a rush process is pretty well  
17244 known. I have talked about it tonight. I am deeply  
17245 concerned about the potential for unintended consequences  
17246 when we take these radical shortcuts. We are told that this  
17247 is the only way to implement emissions reductions to satisfy  
17248 the so-called Byrd rule. I think it is worth noting we are  
17249 being asked to approve an enormously consequential climate  
17250 policy, not on the merits -- the DeGette bill; Lujan, when he  
17251 was here; frankly, our bill Schrader and McKinley have put  
17252 together does a lot better job -- but we are just trying to  
17253 fit it into a parliamentary construct. That is terribly  
17254 wrong.

17255           Under the program before us today, the Department of  
17256 Energy is to issue grants to energy suppliers that will

17257     increase their capital -- excuse me, increase their output of  
17258     clean electricity by an arbitrary amount, and collect  
17259     penalties from those who fail to do so. We are told that the  
17260     Clean Energy (sic) Performance Program will function much as  
17261     a Clean Electricity Standard would.

17262             My Republican colleague, Mr. McKinley, and I have been  
17263     working for nearly two years on a bipartisan legislative  
17264     approach to provide powerful incentives for the power sector  
17265     to reduce carbon emissions by coupling billions of dollars of  
17266     investments in clean energy technologies with a robust Clean  
17267     Electricity Standard. Our goal is to provide effective  
17268     carrots and sticks to reduce carbon emissions, while  
17269     developing the kind of fuel-neutral innovations that will not  
17270     only get us to 95 percent clean electricity, but will develop  
17271     exportable technologies that will create design and  
17272     manufacturing jobs right here at home. We developed our  
17273     legislation after months of engagement with experts,  
17274     industry, and other stakeholders.

17275             Regrettably, the same cannot be said for the alternative  
17276     before us today. We have yet to have a hearing on the Clean  
17277     Electricity Standard, much less the Clean Electricity  
17278     Performance Program.

17279             What credit do utilities get -- as has been discussed  
17280     already -- for already having made substantial investments in  
17281     clean energy alternatives, like in the Pacific Northwest?



17282 That four-and-a-half percent gets harder to get, pretty  
17283 unfair.

17284 Will it provide the right balance of incentives to  
17285 compel compliance? Will it result in sufficient emissions  
17286 reductions? Will it spur innovation, make America a global  
17287 leader and exporter of clean energy technologies? I hope  
17288 so. I know our bill will. But we simply cannot know,  
17289 because we haven't fully vetted this alternative. In fact,  
17290 instead of a bipartisan, consensus-based approach to  
17291 policymaking, we have been given a take-it-or-leave-it  
17292 proposal -- text inspires more questions than answers.

17293 For instance, it is completely unclear if this  
17294 legislation and how this legislation will affect waste energy  
17295 facilities like the one in my district. Waste energy and  
17296 biomass provide considerable climate benefits. But the CEPP  
17297 would increase their compliance costs above what would be  
17298 economically viable, notwithstanding the fact it is supposed  
17299 to be technology neutral. We need to have clarity on these  
17300 questions before rushing into a new regulatory framework.

17301 The climate crisis is an existential threat to the  
17302 health and well-being of our constituents, not to mention  
17303 billions of individuals around the world. That is why I have  
17304 sponsored our CES bill. Time is running out to respond. We  
17305 must get it right the first time. We don't have time to  
17306 waste on poorly-considered trial-and-error plans that have

17307 been rushed through the legislative process to meet this  
17308 arbitrary deadline. We must, therefore, oppose the Clean  
17309 Energy (sic) Performance Program, not because I oppose taking  
17310 aggressive action to tackle climate change and the climate  
17311 crisis, but because we have not been given this alternative  
17312 the consideration it needs.

17313         And I yield back -- I yield time to my good friend from  
17314 West Virginia.

17315         \*The Chairman. Mr. McKinley?

17316         \*Mr. McKinley. Thank you. Just very quickly, Mr.  
17317 Chairman, I am hoping that we will have a hearing on our  
17318 legislation to be able to show the difference between ours,  
17319 which is innovation-based, using science over the next 10, 15  
17320 years, to be able to put together a solution that will enable  
17321 this. So I am hoping that you will allow us to have a  
17322 hearing on our innovation bill. It is long coming. It has  
17323 got -- we have been working with DoE for years now with it,  
17324 and I think it is one that we talked about 14 hours ago, at  
17325 the beginning of this, that if we don't do something  
17326 properly, we are going to wind up with a -- the -- a collapse  
17327 of our grid system.

17328         So I ask you, please, give us an opportunity to hear out  
17329 the merits of our legislation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

17330         \*Mr. Schrader. I yield back.

17331         \*The Chairman. The gentleman from Oregon yields back,

17332 and I am hoping that the people from before put their hands  
17333 down. So, for those who have their hands up, Mr. Armstrong  
17334 would be next.

17335 Mr. Armstrong?

17336 \*Mr. Armstrong. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to  
17337 talk first about what is not in the Clean Energy (sic)  
17338 Performance Program.

17339 If you believe that climate change is an immediate and  
17340 existential threat, then I would recommend speaking to your  
17341 colleagues on Ways and Means, and offering to invalidate any  
17342 trade agreement that doesn't follow this -- in which any  
17343 other country in the world doesn't follow this exact same  
17344 program.

17345 Secondly, and I have said it before, and I will say it  
17346 again, if you want to get to 80 percent renewables by 2030, I  
17347 don't know how you get there. In fact, I know you can't get  
17348 there without permitting reform and litigation reform. And  
17349 again, for all of the things we do, we don't do that because,  
17350 quite frankly, you can -- renewables, traditional energy,  
17351 fossil fuels, baseload power -- in order to get to these  
17352 levels, the amount of transmission that has to be put in  
17353 place, and infrastructure from one end of the country to the  
17354 other is so much more significant than we have the capacity  
17355 to do, that this really is just folly.

17356 But the aim to get to 80 percent renewables by 2030

17357 would use payments to utilities to get there. And the annual  
17358 payments under the Clean Energy (sic) Performance Program  
17359 would be between 2,030 -- 2,020 and 2,030 and would be for  
17360 each megawatt hour produced. That is the carrot.

17361 But earlier we were -- heard that there are no mandates  
17362 in the bill. But there is a 40 megawatt per hour fee for --  
17363 under the established 4 percent threshold. Well, if you are  
17364 paying a fee for not meeting it, that sounds an awful lot  
17365 like a mandate.

17366 And most natural gas would not qualify for this, unless  
17367 CCS and -- has a capture rate of 75 percent emissions,  
17368 something that, if you talk to anybody in the industry, is  
17369 probably at least a decade out. So it is misleading to say  
17370 that natural gas will qualify.

17371 And additionally, this will lock capital decisions and  
17372 short-term requirements, and not long-term investments.

17373 The bottom line is this cost is going to get passed on  
17374 to the ratepayer. There is no other way around it. And  
17375 generation like nuclear and carbon capture would qualify for  
17376 these payments is misleading (sic). Utilities are already  
17377 into doing this. There is no need to -- for the Federal  
17378 Government to get involved in an unrealistic way.

17379 And the narrow windows that are placed in this bill are  
17380 unrealistic. Many utilities are -- already have existing  
17381 contractual agreements and resource development plans that

17382 extend out years, if not decades. And that is a serious  
17383 question, is whether the supply chain can handle this extreme  
17384 buildout in essentially only wind and solar. And that is,  
17385 again, before you talk about the infrastructure problems that  
17386 are very, very real. Republicans have been talking about it  
17387 for the last six months, and nobody seems to address the  
17388 issue. If you think it is hard to get a pipeline put in  
17389 eastern Montana, try putting a high-voltage transmission line  
17390 through a wealthy suburb in the East Coast.

17391         The oil industry and the gas industry have taught people  
17392 how to fight these. If you don't -- if you are worried about  
17393 bifurcating the prairie chicken's habitat, you don't care  
17394 what you are doing, what infrastructure you are putting in.  
17395 Utilitarian infrastructure is always unpopular, locally. So  
17396 we do all these programs, we put all of this in place, but we  
17397 have absolutely unrealistic timelines to do it. And that is  
17398 exactly what this does. It is not going to develop what we  
17399 are going -- what we want it to, and all we are going to do  
17400 in the process is put American businesses at a disadvantage  
17401 on the global stage, and raise the rates for taxpayers.

17402         So I support Dr. Burgess's amendment, and I hope others  
17403 do, as well. And with that I yield back.

17404         \*The Chairman. I thank the gentleman. Mr. McNerney is  
17405 recognized next for five minutes.

17406         \*Mr. McNerney. Well, I thank the chairman.

17407            Say, after two decades in the industry, in the energy  
17408 industry, seeing the benefits of carbon-free electricity, low  
17409 cost, improved air quality, and reduced dependence on foreign  
17410 imports, and a decrease in the greenhouse gas emissions  
17411 responsible for climate change, the Clean Energy (sic)  
17412 Performance Program will provide the necessary investment and  
17413 carbon-free electricity by providing grants to electricity  
17414 suppliers who increase their clean energy generation. These  
17415 investments will be transformational.

17416            The program is designed to be technology-neutral,  
17417 qualifying any technology with a carbon intensity of less  
17418 than one-tenth of a metric ton per -- of carbon dioxide  
17419 equivalent emissions per megawatt hour of electricity. That  
17420 is realistic.

17421            Additionally, the grants provided by the CEPP will be  
17422 used to benefit ratepayers, including through bill assistance  
17423 or investments in clean energy, electricity, and energy  
17424 efficiency. As we have heard, it is the best investment.

17425            In California we have benefited from electricity  
17426 suppliers who acted early to make these investments, and I  
17427 hope this legislation will enable suppliers in other states  
17428 to do the same thing.

17429            The current and recent wildfire seasons in California  
17430 have led to horrible air quality, and to public power --  
17431 public safety power shutdowns to keep fires from spreading

17432 further. This drought is ravaging the entire western United  
17433 States, and it is felt very acutely in my own district.

17434 Our current energy system will not withstand the impacts  
17435 of worsening wildfires, droughts, heat waves, hurricanes, and  
17436 other extreme weather events. We can't let our future energy  
17437 system continue to emit greenhouse gas emissions that cause  
17438 climate change and the extreme weather that comes with it.  
17439 It is really time to invest in climate solutions, and  
17440 transform our energy system.

17441 I support this historic investment in clean energy, and  
17442 I urge my colleagues to oppose this amendment.

17443 I thank the chair, and I yield back.

17444 \*The Chairman. I thank the gentleman.

17445 Mr. Palmer -- oh, Mr. Carter? You are more senior, all  
17446 right. Mr. Carter first.

17447 \*Mr. Carter. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move to strike  
17448 the last word.

17449 \*The Chairman. The gentleman is recognized for five --

17450 \*Mr. Carter. Mr. Chairman, welcome. Welcome to the  
17451 Green New Deal and the end of America energy independence,  
17452 because that is what this subtitle in energy is all about.

17453 Let's start with the Clean Electric Performance Program,  
17454 which is simply the latest version of the Obama-era Clean  
17455 Power Plan, and another Clean Energy Standard. This would  
17456 amount to massive subsidies to force wind and solar on the

17457 American people. This is the opposite of the all-of-the-  
17458 above approach, and would be extremely detrimental to  
17459 consumers, grid reliability, and resilience to extreme  
17460 weather events.

17461       You know, I am not against solar or wind. In fact, my  
17462 home state of Georgia has a growing solar industry. It has  
17463 been in the top 10 of states for solar installations for 4  
17464 years straight. It was also ranked number one in solar jobs  
17465 growth in the Solar Jobs Census 2019 published by the Solar  
17466 Foundation. Additionally, Georgia came in sixth place in  
17467 total solar manufacturing employment.

17468       However, this isn't because we have a Clean Energy  
17469 Standard mandates or any additional subsidies on solar. The  
17470 demand for clean energy in Georgia is largely market driven.  
17471 We are blessed with plenty of sunshine and rain, but it is  
17472 not our entire energy portfolio. I would not force this on a  
17473 state like Alaska, where there is very little sun for large  
17474 portions of the year.

17475       States that have put in place mandates like California's  
17476 to reach 100 percent zero-carbon electricity by 2045 have  
17477 seen their electricity prices rise 7 times more than the rest  
17478 of the country.

17479       I want to promote clean energy that works, encourages  
17480 American innovation, energy independence, and  
17481 competitiveness. But that is not what this bill does. Under



17482     this bill, utilities would have to buy or generate a certain  
17483     amount of renewable energy each year. Those that don't meet  
17484     their quotas would be fined, while those that exceed targets  
17485     would receive payments from the Feds that they must spend on  
17486     increasing renewable energy or reducing electricity prices.

17487             The CEPP would be the most significant climate action in  
17488     our country's history, and we only received the text of it  
17489     last week.

17490             The subsidy payments and fees for not complying, which  
17491     is a gimmick to get by reconciliation rules, will further  
17492     distort electricity markets. This will directly raise prices  
17493     and increase costs for Americans.

17494             Its aggressive timeline for reaching 80 percent  
17495     electricity from zero carbon sources by 2030 makes it nearly  
17496     impossible for utilities to limit -- to take advantage of  
17497     technologies like long-duration energy storage, hydropower,  
17498     hydrogen, carbon capture, or advanced nuclear, which are  
17499     unlikely to be deployable in the near term. Say goodbye to  
17500     any investments in truly innovative technologies, like  
17501     advanced nuclear energy that provides the only reliable zero-  
17502     emission baseload power.

17503             Of course, as we have been saying about much of this  
17504     package, it will ultimately lead to much higher rates. While  
17505     it may not be a literal tax, higher rates are regressive and  
17506     hurt those who make the least in our country.

17507           Economy-wide electrification will only continue, but the  
17508    accompanying low growth and demands on our grid will present  
17509    serious challenges. We already struggle meeting demand in  
17510    some places without transitioning to low or no -- low-carbon  
17511    energy.

17512           Unfortunately, the more utilities rely on renewables,  
17513    the more backup power they will need from fossil fuels to  
17514    keep the grid stable. To prevent rolling blackouts this  
17515    summer, California has had to solicit power from neighboring  
17516    producers, and ask consumers to use less power, as Democrats  
17517    advocate for rapid electrification of everything.

17518           Another concern is how this affects nearly one-third of  
17519    the nation's electricity, as deliverable by electric co-ops  
17520    and public power. They will hurt co-op and public power tax  
17521    ratepayers disproportionately.

17522           The United States has led the world in reducing carbon  
17523    emissions. The emissions reduction in the United States over  
17524    the past years -- out of the past 10 years is the largest in  
17525    the history of energy. From 2019, of the countries that have  
17526    reduced CO2 emissions during that time, the reduction in the  
17527    U.S. was roughly the same as the reduction in the next 10  
17528    countries, combined. All of these reductions happened  
17529    without Obama EPA Clean Power Plan regulations that would  
17530    have mandated industry emission reductions of 32 percent  
17531    below 2005 levels.

17532 Policies that stress market-based approaches, private  
17533 property rights, smart regulation, and cooperative  
17534 federalism, instead of top-down and centralized planning, are  
17535 the best way to achieve our goals.

17536 And I yield back.

17537 \*The Chairman. Who is next?

17538 \*Voice. I think that is it.

17539 \*The Chairman. Is there anyone else who wants to speak  
17540 on the Burgess amendment?

17541 Mr. -- anybody on the Democratic side? No?

17542 Mr. Palmer, recognized for five minutes.

17543 \*Mr. Palmer. I move to strike the last word.

17544 \*The Chairman. The gentleman is recognized.

17545 \*Mr. Palmer. I thank the chairman.

17546 The consistent, alarmist statements by my Democratic  
17547 colleagues concerning climate change reminds me of what H.L.  
17548 Mencken wrote. He said, "The whole sum of practical politics  
17549 is to keep the population alarmed (and hence clamorous to be  
17550 led to safety) by menacing it with an endless series of  
17551 hobgoblins, most of them imaginary."

17552 That is precisely the conclusion of Dr. Steven Koonin,  
17553 the former under secretary for science in the U.S. Department  
17554 of Energy during the Obama-Biden Administration. It is a  
17555 constant threat of climate catastrophe. I am going to read  
17556 what he said in his book, "Unsettled," which I recommend to

17557 every member of this committee.

17558       "The threat of climate catastrophe, whether storms,  
17559 droughts, rising seas, failed crops, or economic collapse  
17560 resonates with everyone. And this threat can be portrayed as  
17561 both urgent, by invoking a recent deadly weather event, for  
17562 instance, and yet just enough so that a politician's dire  
17563 predictions will be tested only decades after they have left  
17564 office. Unfortunately, while climate science and associated  
17565 energy issues are complicated, complexity and nuance don't  
17566 lend themselves at all well to political messaging. The  
17567 science is jettisoned in favor of 'the science,' and  
17568 simplified for use in the political arena, which allows the  
17569 required actions to be portrayed simply, as well, just to  
17570 eliminate fossil fuels to save the planet.'"

17571       So I think we could summarize that by saying that, for  
17572 many, the science is really political science, it is not  
17573 climate science. It is not based in observations of the  
17574 geological record, which tells us about climate change. It  
17575 is in the geologic record.

17576       A 2012 reconstruction of the Power Dissipation Index,  
17577 which is related to hurricanes, goes back to 1880, and it  
17578 reinforces the conclusion that recent decades are nothing out  
17579 of the ordinary, nothing that -- there have been periods  
17580 before 1949 -- noting that there have been periods before  
17581 1949 that were relatively active, compared to the post-1995

17582 era of heightened activity.

17583         In other words, there have been times before human  
17584 influences became significant that were at least as active as  
17585 today.

17586         There were even more severe droughts between 900 and  
17587 1300 AD in the American Southwest than are being experienced  
17588 now. A study published in 2020 confirms the notion that a  
17589 leading cause of multi-year U.S. droughts over the past  
17590 millennium has been internal variability of the atmosphere.  
17591 The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's 5th  
17592 Assessment Report says there is high confidence for droughts  
17593 during the last millennium of greater magnitude and longer  
17594 duration than those observed since the beginning of the 20th  
17595 century in many regions. Repeated crop failures devastated  
17596 communities in the Southwest during the 25-year-long Great  
17597 Drought about 750 years ago.

17598         What we are doing here is dangerous, because it impacts  
17599 the well-being of people. Higher energy costs impact  
17600 people's ability to heat and cool their homes. This is  
17601 especially problematic for low-income households and people  
17602 living in poverty.

17603         The World Health Organization has said that indoor air  
17604 pollution in poor countries, the result of cooking with wood  
17605 and animal and crop waste, is the most serious environmental  
17606 problem in the world, affecting up to three billion people.

17607 This is not the result of climate change. It is the result  
17608 of poverty. It is the result of energy poverty that leads to  
17609 energy injustice and economic injustice.

17610 And this idea that we are going to be totally dependent  
17611 on renewables, just yesterday in the Wall Street Journal is  
17612 an article about energy prices in Europe hitting records  
17613 after the wind stopped blowing -- and these were offshore  
17614 wind turbines in the North Sea -- that led to record  
17615 increases in natural gas prices and to the reliance on fossil  
17616 fuel to keep the power grid up. It says here that the United  
17617 Kingdom electricity prices had more than doubled in  
17618 September, almost 7 times as high at the same point in 2020.  
17619 Our markets also jumped in France, the Netherlands, and  
17620 Germany. This has a devastating impact on low-income people.

17621 I just want to -- again, this committee to focus on  
17622 science, and get out of the rhetoric, and focus on what we  
17623 need to do to prepare for the climate change that is coming  
17624 that we can't do anything about, that eliminating CO2  
17625 emissions will absolutely do nothing to abate.

17626 I yield back.

17627 \*The Chairman. I thank the gentleman. Anyone else want  
17628 to address the Burgess amendment on either side of the aisle?

17629 All right. If not, then we will go to a vote. I assume  
17630 we are going to have a recorded vote on this one.

17631 \*Mr. Burgess. Yes, Mr. Chairman, I would like a

17632 recorded vote.

17633 \*The Chairman. Yes, a recorded vote is ordered on the  
17634 Burgess amendment. Those in favor of the amendment will say  
17635 aye, those opposed will say no, and the clerk shall call the  
17636 roll.

17637 \*The Clerk. Mr. Rush?

17638 \*Mr. Rush. Rush votes no.

17639 \*The Clerk. Mr. Rush votes no.

17640 Ms. Eshoo?

17641 \*Ms. Eshoo. Eshoo votes no.

17642 \*The Clerk. Ms. Eshoo votes no.

17643 Ms. DeGette?

17644 \*Ms. DeGette. DeGette votes no.

17645 \*The Clerk. Ms. DeGette votes no.

17646 Mr. Doyle?

17647 \*Mr. Doyle. Doyle votes no.

17648 \*The Clerk. Mr. Doyle votes no.

17649 Ms. Schakowsky?

17650 \*Ms. Schakowsky. Schakowsky votes no.

17651 \*The Clerk. Ms. Schakowsky votes no.

17652 Mr. Butterfield?

17653 \*Mr. Butterfield. Butterfield votes no.

17654 \*The Clerk. Mr. Butterfield, I couldn't see you. Can  
17655 you please repeat your vote?

17656 \*Mr. Butterfield. Butterfield votes no. Butterfield

17657 votes no.

17658 \*The Clerk. Mr. Butterfield votes no.

17659 Ms. Matsui?

17660 \*Ms. Matsui. Matsui votes no.

17661 \*The Clerk. Ms. Matsui votes no.

17662 Ms. Castor?

17663 \*Ms. Castor. Ms. Castor votes no.

17664 \*The Clerk. Ms. Castor votes no.

17665 Mr. Sarbanes?

17666 \*Mr. Sarbanes. Sarbanes votes no.

17667 \*The Clerk. Mr. Sarbanes votes no.

17668 Mr. McNerney?

17669 \*Mr. McNerney. McNerney votes no.

17670 \*The Clerk. Mr. McNerney votes no.

17671 Mr. Welch?

17672 \*Mr. Welch. Welch votes no.

17673 \*The Clerk. Mr. Welch votes no.

17674 Mr. Tonko?

17675 \*Mr. Tonko. Tonko from New York votes no.

17676 \*The Clerk. Mr. Tonko votes no.

17677 Ms. Clarke?

17678 \*Ms. Clarke. Clarke from New York votes no.

17679 \*The Clerk. Ms. Clarke votes no.

17680 Mr. Schrader?

17681 \*Mr. Schrader. Schrader from Oregon votes yes.



17682           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Schrader votes aye.  
17683           Mr. Cardenas?  
17684           \*Mr. Cardenas.   Cardenas, representing California, votes  
17685   no.  
17686           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Cardenas votes no.  
17687           Mr. Ruiz?  
17688           \*Mr. Ruiz.   Ruiz votes no.  
17689           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Ruiz votes no.  
17690           Mr. Peters?  
17691           \*Mr. Peters.   [Inaudible.]  
17692           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Peters votes no.  
17693           Mrs. Dingell?  
17694           \*Mrs. Dingell.   Dingell votes no.  
17695           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Dingell votes no.  
17696           Mr. Veasey?  
17697           \*Mr. Veasey.   Veasey votes no.  
17698           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Veasey votes no.  
17699           Ms. Kuster?  
17700           \*Ms. Kuster.   Kuster votes no.  
17701           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Kuster votes no.  
17702           Ms. Kelly?  
17703           \*Ms. Kelly.   Kelly votes no.  
17704           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Kelly votes no.  
17705           Ms. Barragan?  
17706           \*Ms. Barragan.   Barragan votes no.

17707 \*The Clerk. Ms. Barragan votes no.  
17708 Mr. McEachin?  
17709 [No response.]  
17710 \*The Clerk. Ms. Blunt Rochester?  
17711 \*Ms. Blunt Rochester. Blunt Rochester votes no.  
17712 \*The Clerk. Ms. Blunt Rochester votes no.  
17713 Mr. Soto?  
17714 \*Mr. Soto. Soto votes no.  
17715 \*The Clerk. Mr. Soto votes no.  
17716 Mr. O'Halleran?  
17717 \*Mr. O'Halleran. O'Halleran votes no.  
17718 \*The Clerk. Mr. O'Halleran votes no.  
17719 Miss Rice?  
17720 \*Miss Rice. [Inaudible.]  
17721 \*The Clerk. Miss Rice votes no.  
17722 Ms. Craig?  
17723 \*Ms. Craig. Craig votes no.  
17724 \*The Clerk. Ms. Craig votes no.  
17725 Ms. Schrier?  
17726 \*Ms. Schrier. Schrier votes no.  
17727 \*The Clerk. Ms. Schrier votes no.  
17728 Mrs. Trahan?  
17729 \*Mrs. Trahan. Trahan votes no.  
17730 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan votes no.  
17731 Mrs. Fletcher?

17732 \*Mrs. Fletcher. Fletcher votes no.  
17733 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher votes no.  
17734 Mrs. Rodgers?  
17735 \*Mrs. Rodgers. [Inaudible.]  
17736 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Rodgers votes aye.  
17737 Mr. Upton?  
17738 [No response.]  
17739 \*The Clerk. Mr. Burgess?  
17740 \*Mr. Burgess. Burgess votes aye.  
17741 \*The Clerk. Mr. Burgess votes aye.  
17742 Mr. Scalise?  
17743 \*Mr. Scalise. Mr. Scalise votes aye.  
17744 \*The Clerk. Mr. Scalise, can you turn on your camera,  
17745 please? I didn't see you.  
17746 \*Mr. Sarbanes. Yes, is that coming through? Mr.  
17747 Scalise votes aye.  
17748 \*The Clerk. Mr. Scalise votes aye.  
17749 Mr. Latta?  
17750 \*Mr. Latta. Latta votes aye.  
17751 \*The Clerk. Mr. Latta votes aye.  
17752 Mr. Guthrie?  
17753 \*Mr. Guthrie. Guthrie votes aye.  
17754 \*The Clerk. Mr. Guthrie votes aye.  
17755 Mr. McKinley?  
17756 \*Mr. McKinley. [Inaudible.]

17757 \*The Clerk. Mr. McKinley votes aye.  
17758 Mr. Kinzinger?  
17759 \*Mr. Kinzinger. Kinzinger, aye.  
17760 \*The Clerk. Mr. Kinzinger votes aye.  
17761 Mr. Griffith?  
17762 \*Mr. Griffith. [Inaudible.]  
17763 \*The Clerk. Mr. Griffith votes aye.  
17764 Mr. Bilirakis?  
17765 \*Mr. Bilirakis. [Inaudible.]  
17766 \*The Clerk. Mr. Bilirakis votes aye.  
17767 Mr. Johnson?  
17768 \*Mr. Johnson. Aye.  
17769 \*The Clerk. Mr. Johnson votes aye.  
17770 Mr. Long?  
17771 [No response.]  
17772 \*The Clerk. Mr. Bucshon?  
17773 \*Mr. Bucshon. Bucshon from Indiana votes aye.  
17774 \*The Clerk. Mr. Bucshon votes aye.  
17775 Mr. Mullin?  
17776 \*Mr. Mullin. Aye.  
17777 \*The Clerk. Mr. Mullin votes aye.  
17778 Mr. Hudson?  
17779 \*Mr. Hudson. Hudson of North Carolina votes aye.  
17780 \*The Clerk. Mr. Hudson votes aye.  
17781 Mr. Walberg?

17782 \*Mr. Walberg. Mr. Walberg votes aye.  
17783 \*The Clerk. Mr. Walberg votes aye.  
17784 Mr. Carter?  
17785 \*Mr. Carter. Carter from Georgia votes aye.  
17786 \*The Clerk. Mr. Carter votes aye.  
17787 Mr. Duncan?  
17788 [No response.]  
17789 \*The Clerk. Mr. Palmer?  
17790 \*Mr. Palmer. Aye.  
17791 \*The Clerk. Mr. Palmer votes aye.  
17792 Mr. Dunn?  
17793 \*Mr. Dunn. Mr. Dunn of Florida votes aye.  
17794 \*The Clerk. Mr. Dunn votes aye.  
17795 Mr. Curtis?  
17796 \*Mr. Curtis. Curtis votes aye.  
17797 \*The Clerk. Mr. Curtis votes aye.  
17798 Mrs. Lesko?  
17799 \*Mrs. Lesko. Lesko votes aye.  
17800 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Lesko votes aye.  
17801 Mr. Pence?  
17802 \*Mr. Pence. Pence from Indiana votes aye.  
17803 \*The Clerk. Mr. Pence votes aye.  
17804 Mr. Crenshaw?  
17805 \*Mr. Crenshaw. Crenshaw votes aye.  
17806 \*The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw votes aye.

17807 Mr. Joyce?

17808 \*Mr. Joyce. Joyce from Pennsylvania votes aye.

17809 \*The Clerk. Mr. Joyce votes aye.

17810 Mr. Armstrong?

17811 \*Mr. Armstrong. Armstrong votes yes.

17812 \*The Clerk. Mr. Armstrong votes aye.

17813 Chairman Pallone?

17814 \*The Chairman. Pallone from New Jersey votes no.

17815 \*The Clerk. Chairman Pallone votes no.

17816 \*Mr. Upton. Upton votes --

17817 \*The Chairman. Anyone who -- Mr. Upton?

17818 \*Mr. Upton. Votes aye.

17819 \*The Chairman. Anyone else who --

17820 \*The Clerk. Mr. Upton votes aye.

17821 \*The Chairman. Any other member who hasn't voted, seeks

17822 to vote before we -- we are good?

17823 All right, the clerk will report the tally on the

17824 Burgess amendment.

17825 \*The Clerk. On that vote, Mr. Chairman, the yeas were

17826 25 and the nays were 30.

17827 \*The Chairman. So the vote on the Burgess amendment is

17828 25 ayes to 30 noes, the amendment is not agreed to.

17829 Do we have any further amendments to the amendment in

17830 the nature of a substitute?

17831 \*Mr. Johnson. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the

17832 desk.

17833 \*The Chairman. You have -- oh, Mr. Johnson?

17834 \*Mr. Johnson. Yes.

17835 \*The Chairman. Mr. Johnson, what is your amendment  
17836 labeled?

17837 \*Mr. Johnson. B117.

17838 \*The Chairman. Does the clerk have that?

17839 Okay, the clerk will report the Johnson amendment.

17840 \*The Clerk. Amendment to Subtitle D, offered by Mr.  
17841 Johnson of Ohio. At the end of -

17842 \*The Chairman. Without objection, the reading of the  
17843 amendment will be dispensed with.

17844 [The amendment of Mr. Johnson follows:]

17845

17846 \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

17847

17848           \*The Chairman. And the gentleman from Ohio is  
17849 recognized for five minutes.

17850           \*Mr. Johnson. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to  
17851 address the natural gas tax and the ridiculous, ironically-  
17852 named Clean Power Performance Plan (sic).

17853           These mandates have nothing to do with reducing  
17854 emissions and clean power. These ridiculous mandates are  
17855 further proof that my Democrat colleagues are focused on one  
17856 thing, and one thing only, and that is ending the production  
17857 and use of coal, oil, and natural gas, and the jobs and  
17858 affordable energy that come with them.

17859           Proponents of this legislation cite this bill as the  
17860 march of progress. I see this as the next Solyndra scandal  
17861 in the making.

17862           Setting aside for a moment the serious ethical and moral  
17863 concerns about relying on foreign countries for the metals  
17864 and materials for a so-called clean economy, I hope we can  
17865 all agree that it is morally reprehensible for children in  
17866 the Congo to be mining cobalt so elites in San Francisco can  
17867 drive electric cars. The ethical concerns extend even closer  
17868 to home.

17869           My amendment is simple. It would prevent grant funding  
17870 in Subtitle D from going to companies or entities that  
17871 Members of Congress, executive branch employees, or their  
17872 family members are employed by, or have financial stakes in.



17873           I want to take you all back for a moment to this spring,  
17874 where we hosted Secretary Granholm to testify. During my  
17875 questioning she admitted that, yes, the Biden Administration  
17876 did, in fact, want to ban hydraulic fracturing on public  
17877 lands, contradicting the White House position at the time.  
17878 We have come to learn now that, just eight days earlier,  
17879 riding the wave of her green advocacy, Secretary Granholm  
17880 filed paperwork confirming the recent sale of a cool, \$1.6  
17881 million in stock in an electric bus company. In hindsight,  
17882 no wonder she was so open about banning fracking. The green  
17883 new future is looking pretty bright, I suspect, for Ms. --  
17884 for Madam Secretary Granholm.

17885           But now that she has cashed out, other investors will  
17886 also stand to benefit. In August's Washington Free Beacon  
17887 article, it was reported that this same company, in brazen  
17888 fashion, actually bragged to its investors about how much it  
17889 stands to gain from all the green infrastructure spending it  
17890 expects to see jammed through Congress this fall. Can you  
17891 believe that?

17892           This isn't the free market at work. This is, by  
17893 definition, government elites rewarding their elitist  
17894 cronies, and leaving the American people holding the bag.

17895           Please, let's do an about face. It is time we put the  
17896 taxpayers and ratepayers' interests above the interest of  
17897 green profiteers.

17898 I urge my colleagues to support my common-sense  
17899 amendment. And Mr. Chairman, I yield back.

17900 \*The Chairman. The gentleman yields back. Anyone else  
17901 on the Johnson amendment?

17902 No one on our side. Any Republican?

17903 Okay, then we will go to a vote on the Johnson  
17904 amendment. I assume we want a recorded vote. I would be  
17905 right?

17906 \*Mr. Johnson. Yes.

17907 \*The Chairman. Okay, a recorded vote is ordered on the  
17908 Johnson amendment. Those in favor of the amendment will say  
17909 aye, those opposed will say no, and the clerk shall call the  
17910 roll.

17911 \*The Clerk. Mr. Rush?

17912 \*Mr. Rush. No.

17913 \*The Clerk. Mr. Rush votes no.

17914 Ms. Eshoo?

17915 \*Ms. Eshoo. Eshoo votes no.

17916 \*The Clerk. Ms. Eshoo votes no.

17917 Ms. DeGette?

17918 \*Ms. DeGette. DeGette votes no.

17919 \*The Clerk. Ms. DeGette votes no.

17920 Mr. Doyle?

17921 \*Mr. Doyle. Doyle votes no.

17922 \*The Clerk. Mr. Doyle votes no.

17923 Ms. Schakowsky?

17924 \*Ms. Schakowsky. Votes yes.

17925 \*The Clerk. Ms. Schakowsky votes aye.

17926 Mr. Butterfield?

17927 \*Mr. Butterfield. Votes no.

17928 \*The Clerk. Mr. --

17929 \*Ms. Schakowsky. I am sorry. Schakowsky votes no.

17930 \*The Clerk. Ms. Schakowsky votes no.

17931 Mr. Butterfield?

17932 \*Mr. Butterfield. Votes no.

17933 [Laughter.]

17934 \*The Clerk. Mr. Butterfield votes no.

17935 Ms. Matsui?

17936 \*Ms. Matsui. Matsui votes no.

17937 \*The Clerk. Ms. Matsui votes no.

17938 Ms. Castor?

17939 \*Ms. Castor. Castor votes no.

17940 \*The Clerk. Ms. Castor votes no.

17941 Mr. Sarbanes?

17942 \*Mr. Sarbanes. Sarbanes votes no.

17943 \*The Clerk. Mr. Sarbanes votes no.

17944 Mr. McNerney?

17945 \*Mr. McNerney. McNerney votes no.

17946 \*The Clerk. Mr. McNerney votes no.

17947 Mr. Welch?

17948 \*Mr. Welch. Welch votes no.  
17949 \*The Clerk. Mr. Welch votes no.  
17950 Mr. Tonko?  
17951 \*Mr. Tonko. Tonko from New York votes no.  
17952 \*The Clerk. Mr. Tonko votes no.  
17953 Ms. Clarke?  
17954 \*Ms. Clarke. Clarke from New York votes no.  
17955 \*The Clerk. Ms. Clarke votes no.  
17956 Mr. Schrader?  
17957 \*Mr. Schrader. Schrader from Oregon votes no.  
17958 \*The Clerk. Mr. Schrader votes no.  
17959 Mr. Cardenas?  
17960 \*Mr. Cardenas. Cardenas, representing California, votes  
17961 no.  
17962 \*The Clerk. Mr. Cardenas votes no.  
17963 Mr. Ruiz?  
17964 \*Mr. Ruiz. Ruiz votes no.  
17965 \*The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz votes no.  
17966 Mr. Peters?  
17967 \*Mr. Peters. Peters votes no.  
17968 [Pause.]  
17969 \*Mr. Peters. Peters votes no.  
17970 \*The Clerk. Mr. Peters votes no.  
17971 Mrs. Dingell?  
17972 \*Mrs. Dingell. Dingell votes no.

17973           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Dingell votes no.  
17974           Mr. Veasey?  
17975           \*Mr. Veasey.   Buenos días.   Veasey votes no.  
17976           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Veasey votes no.  
17977           Ms. Kuster?  
17978           [No response.]  
17979           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Kuster?  
17980           [No response.]  
17981           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Kelly?  
17982           \*Ms. Kelly.   Kelly votes no.  
17983           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Kelly votes no.  
17984           Ms. Barragan?  
17985           \*Ms. Barragan.   Barragan votes no.  
17986           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Barragan votes no.  
17987           Ms. Blunt Rochester?  
17988           \*Ms. Blunt Rochester.   Blunt Rochester votes no.  
17989           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Blunt Rochester votes no.  
17990           Mr. Soto?  
17991           \*Mr. Soto.   Soto votes no.  
17992           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Soto votes no.  
17993           Mr. O'Halleran?  
17994           \*Mr. O'Halleran.   O'Halleran votes no.  
17995           \*The Clerk.   Mr. O'Halleran votes no.  
17996           Miss Rice?  
17997           \*Miss Rice.   [Inaudible.]

17998           \*The Clerk. Miss Rice votes no.  
17999           Ms. Craig?  
18000           \*Ms. Craig. Craig votes no.  
18001           \*The Clerk. Ms. Craig votes no.  
18002           Ms. Schrier?  
18003           \*Ms. Schrier. Schrier votes no.  
18004           \*The Clerk. Ms. Schrier votes no.  
18005           Mrs. Trahan?  
18006           \*Mrs. Trahan. Trahan votes no.  
18007           \*The Clerk. Mrs. Trahan votes no.  
18008           Mrs. Fletcher?  
18009           \*Mrs. Fletcher. Fletcher votes no.  
18010           \*The Clerk. Mrs. Fletcher votes no.  
18011           Mrs. Rodgers?  
18012           \*Mrs. Rodgers. Aye, Rodgers votes aye.  
18013           \*The Clerk. Mrs. Rodgers votes aye.  
18014           Mr. Upton?  
18015           \*Mr. Upton. Mr. Upton votes aye.  
18016           \*The Clerk. Mr. Upton votes aye.  
18017           Mr. Burgess?  
18018           \*Mr. Burgess. Votes aye.  
18019           \*The Clerk. Mr. Burgess votes aye.  
18020           Mr. Scalise?  
18021           \*Mr. Scalise. Scalise votes aye.  
18022           \*The Clerk. Mr. Scalise votes aye.

18023 Mr. Latta?

18024 \*Mr. Latta. Latta votes aye.

18025 \*The Clerk. Mr. Latta votes aye.

18026 Mr. Guthrie?

18027 \*Mr. Guthrie. Aye.

18028 \*The Clerk. Mr. Guthrie votes aye.

18029 Mr. McKinley?

18030 \*Mr. McKinley. [Inaudible.]

18031 \*The Clerk. Mr. McKinley votes no.

18032 Mr. Kinzinger?

18033 [No response.]

18034 \*The Clerk. Mr. Griffith?

18035 \*Mr. Griffith. [Inaudible.]

18036 \*The Clerk. Mr. Griffith votes aye.

18037 Mr. Bilirakis?

18038 \*Mr. Bilirakis. Bilirakis votes aye.

18039 \*The Clerk. Mr. Bilirakis votes aye.

18040 Mr. Johnson?

18041 \*Mr. Johnson. Johnson votes aye.

18042 \*The Clerk. Mr. Johnson votes aye.

18043 Mr. Long?

18044 [No response.]

18045 \*The Clerk. Mr. Bucshon?

18046 \*Mr. Bucshon. Bucshon from Indiana votes aye.

18047 \*The Clerk. Mr. Bucshon votes aye.

18048 Mr. Mullin?  
18049 \*Mr. Mullin. Aye.  
18050 \*The Clerk. Mr. Mullin votes aye.  
18051 Mr. Hudson?  
18052 \*Mr. Hudson. Votes aye.  
18053 \*The Clerk. Mr. Hudson votes aye.  
18054 Mr. Walberg?  
18055 \*Mr. Walberg. Walberg votes aye.  
18056 \*The Clerk. Mr. Walberg votes aye.  
18057 Mr. Carter?  
18058 \*Mr. Carter. Carter votes aye.  
18059 \*The Clerk. Mr. Carter votes aye.  
18060 Mr. Duncan?  
18061 [No response.]  
18062 \*The Clerk. Mr. Palmer?  
18063 \*Mr. Palmer. Palmer votes aye.  
18064 \*The Clerk. Mr. Palmer votes aye.  
18065 Mr. Dunn?  
18066 \*Mr. Dunn. Mr. Dunn votes aye.  
18067 \*The Clerk. Mr. Dunn votes aye.  
18068 Mr. Curtis?  
18069 \*Mr. Curtis. Curtis votes aye.  
18070 \*The Clerk. Mr. Curtis votes aye.  
18071 Mrs. Lesko?  
18072 \*Mrs. Lesko. Lesko votes aye.



18073           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Lesko votes aye.  
18074           Mr. Pence?  
18075           \*Mr. Pence.   Pence from Indiana votes aye.  
18076           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Pence votes aye.  
18077           Mr. Crenshaw?  
18078           \*Mr. Crenshaw.   Crenshaw votes aye.  
18079           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Crenshaw votes aye.  
18080           Mr. Joyce?  
18081           \*Mr. Joyce.   Joyce from Pennsylvania votes aye.  
18082           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Joyce votes aye.  
18083           Mr. Armstrong?  
18084           \*Mr. Armstrong.   Armstrong votes yes.  
18085           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Armstrong votes aye.  
18086           Chairman Pallone?  
18087           \*The Chairman.   Pallone from New Jersey votes no.  
18088           \*The Clerk.   Chairman Pallone votes no.  
18089           \*The Chairman.   Anyone who didn't vote, who would like  
18090   to?  
18091           \*Ms. Kuster.   Yes, Kuster votes no.  
18092           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Kuster votes no.  
18093           \*The Chairman.   Anyone else?  
18094           Anyone else, guys?  
18095           No?   All right, the clerk will report the tally on the  
18096   Johnson amendment.  
18097           \*The Clerk.   On that vote, Mr. Chairman, the yeas were

18098 22 and the nays were 32.

18099 \*The Chairman. The vote is 22 ayes to 32 noes, and the  
18100 Johnson amendment is not agreed to.

18101 \*Voice. We have McKinley as a no. I need to double-  
18102 check.

18103 \*The Chairman. You have who?

18104 \*Voice. Okay, sorry.

18105 \*The Chairman. Are there further amendments to the  
18106 amendment in -

18107 \*Mr. Bucshon. Mr. Chairman, I have an amendment at the  
18108 desk. It is Bucshon.

18109 \*The Chairman. Mr. Bucshon? Bucshon, yes. What is it  
18110 labeled?

18111 \*Mr. Bucshon. E3\_26.

18112 \*The Chairman. Do the clerks have it?

18113 \*The Clerk. Yes, sir.

18114 \*The Chairman. The clerk will report the Bucshon  
18115 amendment.

18116 \*The Clerk. Amendment to Subtitle B, offered by Mr.  
18117 Bucshon of Indiana. At the end of Part 8 -

18118 \*The Chairman. Without objection, the reading of the  
18119 amendment will be dispensed with.

18120

18121

18122

18123           [The amendment of Mr. Bucshon follows:]

18124

18125       \*\*\*\*\*COMMITTEE INSERT\*\*\*\*\*

18126

18127           \*The Chairman. And the gentleman from Indiana is  
18128 recognized for five minutes.

18129           \*Mr. Bucshon. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I support an  
18130 all-of-the-above, market-driven energy approach to keep the  
18131 lights on --

18132           [Audio malfunction.]

18133           \*Mr. Bucshon. -- will ensure that consumers have  
18134 options to meet their family and business transportation  
18135 needs.

18136           I want to be clear. I support electric vehicles.  
18137 However, the -- we are considering here today are vague about  
18138 incentives for EVs and charging infrastructure proposed in  
18139 this bill, and they could allow the wealthy to reap benefits  
18140 from the American taxpayers, simply by purchasing the EV.  
18141 According to a 2018 study by the Pacific Research Institute,  
18142 almost 80 percent of those utilizing EV incentives have  
18143 incomes over \$100,000 a year. And in 2019, the median  
18144 household income in Indiana's 8th congressional district was  
18145 only just over \$54,000 a year.

18146           Mr. Chair, the wealthiest individuals in this country  
18147 don't need a handout from the American taxpayers for buying  
18148 an expensive EV. Why not make sure the incentives are  
18149 targeted to those Americans that truly need the help the  
18150 most?

18151           This is why I am offering an amendment which would

18152 prohibit Federal aid for the purchase of electric vehicles or  
18153 charging equipment by individuals making more than \$100,000 a  
18154 year, or for purchases of electric vehicles or charging  
18155 equipment of greater than \$40,000 a year. This just happens  
18156 to be the same language in the Senate version of the bill.

18157       The language in these subtitles is loose. And so this  
18158 amendment would serve as an insurance policy to ensure that  
18159 wealthy individuals do not take advantage of Federal  
18160 assistance they do not need.

18161       If my friends on the other side of the aisle want to  
18162 keep insisting that the only path towards cleaner air is  
18163 through forcing all Americans to park their liquid fuel cars  
18164 cars for EVs, this amendment would at least bring some fiscal  
18165 sanity to the bill -- promises one thing, and wildly spends  
18166 on the other.

18167       I urge the adoption of my common-sense amendment, and I  
18168 yield back the balance of my time.

18169       \*The Chairman. Does anyone else want to speak on this?

18170       No? All right. Then we will -- if no, then we will go  
18171 to a recorded vote on the Bucshon amendment.

18172       A recorded vote is ordered. Those in favor of the  
18173 Bucshon amendment will say aye, those opposed will say no,  
18174 and the clerk shall call the roll.

18175       \*The Clerk. Mr. Rush?

18176       \*Mr. Rush. Rush of Illinois votes no.

18177           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Rush votes no.  
18178           Ms. Eshoo?  
18179           \*Ms. Eshoo.   Eshoo votes no.  
18180           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Eshoo votes no.  
18181           Ms. DeGette?  
18182           \*Ms. DeGette.   DeGette votes no.  
18183           \*The Clerk.   Ms. DeGette votes no.  
18184           Mr. Doyle?  
18185           \*Mr. Doyle.   Doyle votes no.  
18186           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Doyle votes no.  
18187           Ms. Schakowsky?  
18188           \*Ms. Schakowsky.   Schakowsky votes no.  
18189           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Schakowsky votes no.  
18190           Mr. Butterfield?  
18191           \*Mr. Butterfield.   Butterfield votes no.  
18192           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Butterfield votes no.  
18193           Ms. Matsui?  
18194           \*Ms. Matsui.   Matsui votes no.  
18195           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Matsui votes no.  
18196           Ms. Castor?  
18197           \*The Chairman.   We convene at 10:00.  
18198           \*Ms. Castor.   [Inaudible.]  
18199           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Castor votes no.  
18200           Mr. Sarbanes?  
18201           \*Mr. Sarbanes.   Sarbanes votes no.

18202           \*The Clerk. Mr. Sarbanes, can you please turn on your  
18203 camera? I didn't get your vote.  
18204           \*Mr. Sarbanes. Sarbanes votes no.  
18205           \*The Clerk. Mr. Sarbanes votes no.  
18206 Mr. McNerney?  
18207           \*Mr. McNerney. McNerney votes no.  
18208           \*The Clerk. Mr. McNerney votes no.  
18209 Mr. Welch?  
18210           \*Mr. Welch. Welch votes no.  
18211           \*The Clerk. Mr. Welch votes no.  
18212 Mr. Tonko?  
18213 [No response.]  
18214           \*The Clerk. Ms. Clarke?  
18215           \*Ms. Clarke. Ms. Clarke votes no.  
18216           \*The Clerk. Ms. Clarke votes no.  
18217 Mr. Schrader?  
18218           \*Mr. Schrader. Schrader votes no.  
18219           \*The Clerk. Mr. Schrader votes no.  
18220 Mr. Cardenas?  
18221           \*Mr. Cardenas. Cardenas, representing California, votes  
18222 no.  
18223           \*The Clerk. Mr. Cardenas votes no.  
18224 Mr. Ruiz?  
18225           \*Mr. Ruiz. Ruiz votes no.  
18226           \*The Clerk. Mr. Ruiz votes no.

18227 Mr. Peters?

18228 \*Mr. Peters. Peters votes no. Peters votes no.

18229 \*The Clerk. Mr. Peters votes no.

18230 Mrs. Dingell?

18231 \*Mrs. Dingell. Dingell votes no.

18232 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Dingell votes no.

18233 Mr. Veasey?

18234 \*Mr. Veasey. Veasey votes no.

18235 \*The Clerk. Mr. Veasey votes no.

18236 Ms. Kuster?

18237 \*Ms. Kuster. Kuster votes no.

18238 \*The Clerk. Ms. Kuster votes no.

18239 Ms. Kelly?

18240 \*Ms. Kelly. Kelly votes no.

18241 \*The Clerk. Ms. Kelly votes no.

18242 Ms. Barragan?

18243 \*Ms. Barragan. Barragan votes no.

18244 \*The Clerk. Ms. Barragan votes no.

18245 Mr. McEachin?

18246 [No response.]

18247 \*The Clerk. Ms. Blunt Rochester?

18248 \*Ms. Blunt Rochester. Blunt Rochester votes no.

18249 \*The Clerk. Ms. Blunt Rochester votes no.

18250 Mr. Soto?

18251 \*Mr. Soto. Soto votes no.



18252           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Soto votes no.  
18253           Mr. O'Halleran?  
18254           \*Mr. O'Halleran.   O'Halleran votes no.  
18255           \*The Clerk.   Mr. O'Halleran votes no.  
18256           Miss Rice?  
18257           \*Miss Rice.   [Inaudible.]  
18258           \*The Clerk.   Miss Rice votes no.  
18259           Ms. Craig?  
18260           \*Ms. Craig.   Craig votes no.  
18261           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Craig votes no.  
18262           Ms. Schrier?  
18263           \*Ms. Schrier.   Schrier votes no.  
18264           \*The Clerk.   Ms. Schrier votes no.  
18265           Mrs. Trahan?  
18266           \*Mrs. Trahan.   Trahan votes no.  
18267           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Trahan votes no.  
18268           Mrs. Fletcher?  
18269           \*Mrs. Fletcher.   Fletcher votes no.  
18270           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Fletcher votes no.  
18271           Mrs. Rodgers?  
18272           \*Mrs. Rodgers.   [Inaudible.]  
18273           \*The Clerk.   Mrs. Rodgers votes aye.  
18274           Mr. Upton?  
18275           \*Mr. Upton.   Mr. Upton votes aye.  
18276           \*The Clerk.   Mr. Upton votes aye.

18277 Mr. Burgess?

18278 \*Mr. Burgess. Votes aye.

18279 \*The Clerk. Mr. Burgess, can you please repeat your

18280 vote?

18281 \*Mr. Burgess. Burgess votes aye.

18282 \*The Clerk. Mr. Burgess votes aye.

18283 Mr. Scalise?

18284 \*Mr. Scalise. Scalise votes aye.

18285 \*The Clerk. Mr. Scalise votes aye.

18286 Mr. Latta?

18287 \*Mr. Latta. Latta votes aye.

18288 \*The Clerk. Mr. Latta votes aye.

18289 Mr. Guthrie?

18290 \*Mr. Guthrie. Votes aye.

18291 \*The Clerk. Mr. Guthrie votes aye.

18292 Mr. McKinley?

18293 \*Mr. McKinley. [Inaudible.]

18294 \*The Clerk. Mr. McKinley votes aye.

18295 Mr. Kinzinger?

18296 [No response.]

18297 \*The Clerk. Mr. Griffith?

18298 \*Mr. Griffith. Aye.

18299 \*The Clerk. Mr. Griffith votes aye.

18300 Mr. Bilirakis?

18301 \*Mr. Bilirakis. [Inaudible.]

18302           \*The Clerk. Mr. Bilirakis votes aye.  
18303           Mr. Johnson?  
18304           \*Mr. Johnson. Johnson votes aye.  
18305           \*The Clerk. Mr. Johnson votes aye.  
18306           Mr. Long?  
18307           [No response.]  
18308           \*The Clerk. Mr. Bucshon?  
18309           \*Mr. Bucshon. Bucshon from Indiana votes aye.  
18310           \*The Clerk. Mr. Bucshon votes aye.  
18311           Mr. Mullin?  
18312           \*Mr. Mullin. Aye.  
18313           \*The Clerk. Mr. Mullin votes aye.  
18314           Mr. Hudson?  
18315           \*Mr. Hudson. [Inaudible.]  
18316           \*The Clerk. Mr. Hudson votes aye.  
18317           Mr. Walberg?  
18318           \*Mr. Walberg. Mr. Walberg votes aye.  
18319           \*The Clerk. Mr. Walberg votes aye.  
18320           Mr. Carter?  
18321           \*Mr. Carter. Carter from Georgia votes aye.  
18322           \*The Clerk. Mr. Carter votes aye.  
18323           Mr. Duncan?  
18324           [No response.]  
18325           \*The Clerk. Mr. Palmer?  
18326           \*Mr. Palmer. Palmer votes aye.

18327 \*The Clerk. Mr. Palmer votes aye.  
18328 Mr. Dunn?  
18329 \*Mr. Dunn. Mr. Dunn votes aye.  
18330 \*The Clerk. Mr. Dunn votes aye.  
18331 Mr. Curtis?  
18332 \*Mr. Curtis. Curtis votes aye.  
18333 \*The Clerk. Mr. Curtis votes aye.  
18334 Mrs. Lesko?  
18335 \*Mrs. Lesko. Lesko votes aye.  
18336 \*The Clerk. Mrs. Lesko votes aye.  
18337 Mr. Pence?  
18338 \*Mr. Pence. Pence from Indiana votes aye.  
18339 \*The Clerk. Mr. Pence votes aye.  
18340 Mr. Crenshaw?  
18341 \*Mr. Crenshaw. Crenshaw votes aye.  
18342 \*The Clerk. Mr. Crenshaw votes aye.  
18343 Mr. Joyce?  
18344 \*Mr. Joyce. Joyce from Pennsylvania votes yes.  
18345 \*The Clerk. Mr. Joyce votes aye.  
18346 Mr. Armstrong?  
18347 \*Mr. Armstrong. Armstrong votes yes.  
18348 \*The Clerk. Mr. Armstrong votes aye.  
18349 Chairman Pallone?  
18350 \*The Chairman. Pallone from New Jersey votes no.  
18351 \*The Clerk. Chairman Pallone votes no.

18352           \*The Chairman. Is there anyone who hasn't voted who  
18353 would like to? Mr. Tonko?

18354           \*Mr. Tonko. Tonko of New York votes no.

18355           \*The Clerk. Mr. Tonko votes no.

18356           \*The Chairman. Anyone else?

18357           \*Mrs. Rodgers. We are good.

18358           \*The Chairman. All right. If -- the clerk will report  
18359 the tally on the Bucshon amendment.

18360           \*The Clerk. On that vote, Mr. Chairman, the yeas were  
18361 23 and the nays were 31.

18362           \*The Chairman. So the vote on the Bucshon amendment is  
18363 23 ayes to 31 noes. The amendment is not agreed to.

18364           Now, let me just say I know we have been here all day,  
18365 and we are going to go home, but we have only done 6 of the  
18366 16 titles, which means we have the rest of the energy title,  
18367 which, my understanding is, there are, like, 10 more  
18368 Republican amendments. We have all the health titles and all  
18369 the Commerce Subcommittee titles left, so we are not even  
18370 halfway through.

18371           So it just means that we are going to reconvene tomorrow  
18372 at 10:00, but, you know, you have got to figure you are going  
18373 to be here most of the night, if today was any indication, or  
18374 we will still try to get done, I guess, you know, by some  
18375 time Wednesday morning, so people can go to -- you know, if  
18376 you have to fly back for Yom Kippur services.

18377           So just be prepared that, you know, we are going to be  
18378   here -- I mean, unless something changes, and everybody wants  
18379   to move quickly, that we will be here, probably, at least  
18380   until this time tomorrow night.

18381           But with that, I thank everybody, and the committee  
18382   stands in recess until 10:00 a.m. tomorrow, 10:00 a.m.  
18383   Eastern Standard Time.

18384           [Whereupon, at 2:37 a.m., the subcommittee recessed, to  
18385   reconvene at 10:00 a.m., September 14, 2021.]